

*The History  
of  
Zeta Tau Alpha*



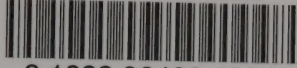
*Shirley Kreasan Strout*



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*The History*  
*of*  
*Zeta Tau Alpha*





A. Maud Jones  
Henderson, N. C.



*The History of  
Zeta Tau Alpha  
1898—1948*

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*By*

SHIRLEY KREASAN STROUT  
NATIONAL HISTORIAN

*Author of*

Volume I, *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha* (1898-1928)

Volume II, *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha* (1898-1928)

*Illustrated*

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ZETA TAU ALPHA FRATERNITY

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## DEDICATION

*To the nine young women whose  
dreams and initiative brought  
Zeta Tau Alpha into being*





# Introduction

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*History is our past, but also our present; it is the most demanding of disciplines . . . because it constantly tempts us to pretend assurance where we do not have it. And even for those of great integrity it is a savage master, for it never remains constant. Our moving present modifies the past, and tomorrow will change yesterday, place it not only beyond recall but sometimes beyond understanding.*

GEORGE BANTA, JR.

IN GIVING to Zeta Tau Alpha this new *History* covering the fraternity's first fifty years (and a streamlined Supplement of the next four), the author does so with the firm conviction that an organization that loses touch with its past and its heritage is an organization destined to lose both its continuity and meaning—an organization heading, at the very least, into mediocrity and a vagueness of purpose.

For roots, and a sense of belonging to something substantial and valid, are necessary for permanence and a growth that is "built upon a rock." The incentive to work for, and sometimes sacrifice for, a fraternity, springs from pride and belief in that organization, and both pride and belief must have a foundation, and one can have neither true pride nor belief in something one actually knows next to nothing about. There is nothing to hold it together permanently.

History and history alone gives that continuity and heritage that the years and thousands of Zetas have bequeathed to us, and knowledge of that heritage gives the solid foundation and inspiration that stimulates pride and gives ringing conviction to the simple, but all-meaningful statement, "I am a Zeta Tau Alpha"—with accent on the first word.

But pride and belief are not gained from an expurgated record that presents a picture obviously too unrealistic to be true or merit credence in a world inhabited by people even as you and I, whose experience is usually gained through the painful growing up process, through trial and error—and through learning the hard way.

Thus, Zeta Tau Alpha's unfolding story takes her through years of development, years that were challenging—and years of wonderful growth and progress, with the half-century mark reached in a blaze of glory, "all tinted in gold."

Character, self-possession and the quiet mellowness of a true sense of understanding and compassion are inevitable concomitants of accruing years, if one has a perceptive, teachable mind, and a receptive, humble heart.

To one who has literally lived with and studied the Zeta story as much of



it was being made, and who, both as an active participant and objective interpreter, has observed and studied it over a long period of years, there emerges the dominant impression of the fundamental soundness of Zeta Tau Alpha, of her graceful but sturdy durability, not to mention the noticeable existence of an indefinable something that might almost be called destiny—a “something” that early cast its guarding aura over her.

The consequent conclusion that projects itself is: Your fraternity merits your whole hearted pride and faith. It is a structure above and beyond personalities, even though it is people who have breathed into it the breath of life. Its principles and destiny stand untouched by the surge of the passing scene. It is like a star, fixed in its position in the firmament. Its teachings are the truth of the ages—a verity to cling to as an expression of the eternal right of things, and the true way to follow, regardless of the frailty of mortal man. Like the star, it is always there—high and shining—and it will always live in the hearts of those who have been touched by its teachings.

Tested by the years—as are all things—it has been found not wanting. The long chain of silver links which eager members finger in the Historical Exhibit at conventions, as they seek their own chapter link, gives evidence of the size to which Zeta Tau Alpha has grown, now nearing the one-hundredth charter grant. Her material assets and the number of beautiful Zeta homes have grown proportionately. But the true strength of the fraternity lies in the heart-treasure that is its thousands of members, daughters of Themis who have gone out all over the world. Come problems or prosperity, Zeta has kept faith with her daughters—with you. Will the record of your years be as faithful to her, as her steadfast course has been to you?

### The Decade Form

The several decisions made at National Council meetings held during the war finally culminated in the 1946 meeting's approval of a comprehensive, one-volume *History*, to be written in decade form.

From 1941-1946, as the reader will note, there were changing opinions and directives as to the form the projected new *History* should take. For a time a third volume, to be added to the earlier two volumes that had enjoyed four large printings, was favored. Conforming to the changing directives, the Historian's plans were accordingly revised several times, and a great deal of work, writing and rewriting went into each newly selected form as the former one was officially abandoned.

Then in 1946 the situation was stabilized. The decision to have the fraternity's history written in a decade-by-decade form, with each ten-year span constituting its own and complete history that would stand as the finished record of that period, stemmed from the desire of National Council and the

author for a practical form that would afford some permanency, one that would prevent the outmoding of a new volume before it was off the press—and eliminate the constant rewriting and revising previously required in order to keep the rapidly changing record up to date.

Revolutionary indeed, was the shift to this form, which, although undoubtedly the most practical one, headed the author out upon an uncharted course. One or two of the men's fraternities had devoted a complete book to a short span of years, with other volumes to follow, but aside from that, fraternity histories had not been written in decade form. Other types of histories afforded no idea-giving assistance or inspiration, so the author had to blaze her own trail, and work out her own form. It is never easy to break a trail. It wasn't this time.

A form of contents that would provide some uniformity, and be adequate for, and applicable to, each decade, had to be worked out with acute awareness of all that had to be included in the number of pages available. Then the whole fifty fulsome years and inter-related chapters had to be condensed into one interpretative volume that gave reason and life to the happenings of those years, and reanimated and revived that "which time and space have placed at a distance from us"—lest it all be lost in the dim recesses of the past and, in time, become "beyond understanding."

It was not as simple as the finished product might make it appear. The task was more prolonged, difficult and problem-fraught than had been anticipated—and there were delays over which the writer had no control. The work proved to be long, arduous and necessarily painstaking. The hours that went into writing, research, and the heavy correspondence and technical work that were demanded added up to a formidable record that is best forgotten in the happy consummation of a work of not inconsiderable size.

Paper restrictions prohibited publication during the war, and for some years afterwards.

The fraternity's full record ends with the fifth decade. The streamlined Supplement, giving brief accounts of new chapters and conventions was, with National Council's concurrence, terminated at the end of 1952, when the *History* was officially closed. The continuation of additions was considered unfeasible, if the book's publication was not to be delayed further, and because page estimates predicted the practicability of a 1952 closing.

### Contents

To the thousands who own the first two volumes of Zeta's *History* (1898-1928), this completely new book, tailored to fit form and space, will seem very different. Many factors governed the final selection of contents.

With over fifty years to cover in one volume, space limitations made impos-



sible the inclusion of charter members' pictures beyond the first decade. For obvious reasons, pictures of the first decade were included, but the stories and charter members' pictures of the ninety-one chapters covered would virtually have constituted a book in themselves.

To avoid the rapid outmoding of printed history, the 1943 National Council meeting decided that the time span covered in college chapter histories should include the period up to, and through installation, terminating at that point. The 1942 meeting's directive was the non-inclusion of alumnae chapter histories, which, again, had proved impractical. The same was true of the quickly outmoded personal sketches of officers.

From the start, a chapter on "The Homes of Zeta Tau Alpha" was scheduled. Work on it, and the gathering of pictures and data went on for a number of years, despite the situation created by the ever-changing house picture. But by 1952 it became necessary for the Historian to report to convention that "the near-impossibility of maintaining a status quo for this chapter constituted a continuing problem," It had

required an unexpected and unbelievable amount of time and work, involving many problems of delay and revision. To keep it current with Zeta's changing, and ever progressing house picture, it was necessary to re-do the chapter several times . . . secure and add new pictures where a chapter had owned no house before, and replace pictures and captions, already in proof form, with brand new pictures of brand new houses. . . . An idea of the problem and the turn over in this chapter is illustrated by the fact that since the last convention, fourteen new houses . . . have been built or added to, while two others built additions that wrought external changes, necessitating new pictures.

It was, indeed, a reflection of "Zeta's marvelous progress in home ownership," but the pace of the expanding house picture and the fact that it would remain ever changing, finally ruled out that chapter's inclusion in the *History*. The years of work were not lost though, for the section that was to have been the *History's* chapter on "The Homes of Zeta Tau Alpha" appeared, with National Council's concurrence, as a house folio in the June-July, 1954 issue of *Themis*. Building developments since then have proved the decision to be a wise one.

### The Spirit of the Times

Especially in convention accounts and college chapter histories, quotations have been used generously throughout in order to capture and transmit the spirit of the times, as told in each decade's records and publications.

As an example, through quotations woven into the history of Alpha Xi chapter, the suspense, thrill, and happiness of that charter group are vividly transmitted to the reader, who also senses the background of work, problems overcome, the seriousness of purpose and devotion to a cause that have formed the saga of almost every chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha. Always there have been

those with the inspiration and willingness to labor and achieve, that not only they, but those who came after them, might enjoy a priceless heritage. Here, then, in condensed form is that heritage—and how their founders worked to achieve it—that is bequeathed to all Alpha Xis, from the initiates of yester-years, to those of years to come. Here is their founding story.

Paralleling Alpha Xi's story, are those of other chapters, which are comprehensively covered as to essential facts in so far as available records made that possible, depending to a large extent upon how fully the early chronicler entrusted with the chapter's story gave its full history and installation story. Source material included petitions, *Themis* accounts, letters and official files. Fortunate indeed were the chapters whose initial recorders gave a clear picture and full story.

Then there were the conventions—the milestones of the unfolding years that comprise the decades—the mirrors of those decades, for conventions are representative of their years and times, and perhaps reflective of the administrative group at the helm. And truly, a convention is a many sided thing.

Thus, no skeletonized listing of the legislation passed could possibly give a representative picture of any conclave, no matter how important the business accomplishments. For one thing, each convention was different. Each had its own distinct identity and, to many, conclave functions, the personal contacts, the friendships made or renewed, constitute a vital, if not the most important phase of those meetings.

So the *History* invites the reader to attend an early convention that was a house party; to dine sumptuously and oblivious of calories at an early day banquet in the pre-calorie-conscious era; to try to imagine a convention eagerly squired by a contingent of attentive young men from a medical fraternity; to enjoy the social brilliance of the Arkansas convention and the gracious entertaining of 1908; to journey to the first California convention; to visualize the convention held in the cool northland of Canada; to enjoy the program and pageantry of the West Baden convention, and to continue on to the golden anniversary—the climax of “fifty golden years.”

For those who may some day want to present a pageant or a parade of the years (as frequently has been the case in the past), it is hoped that this volume has provided the needed source material and inspiration.

Instead of a dry, skeletonized recital of dates, places and uninterpreted legislation that would be a near-meaningless record having neither substance, life nor *raison d'être*, the *History* has sought to paint an overall picture of each convention, in order that each conclave shall have not only its own record of accomplishment, but be understood in the light and intent of its planners. And also, that each picture, locked in the permanent album of its decade, will be a clear etching in the sketch book of Zeta conventions.



### Personal Mention

Since women marry, re-marry and occasionally un-marry, a tremendous amount of time, work and correspondence went into the task of checking and securing the correct (and correctly spelled) married names of the members mentioned in these pages. And the writer did not lack understanding of the nuances of names, for she herself had a name problem, the explanation of which belongs in this Introduction.

Two volumes of *Zeta History*, many issues of *Themis* and numerous other printed works and records carried the name of Shirley Kreasan Krieg until the year 1942. The printed record demanded a certain compliance that would be accurate, but not too confusing, so the obvious solution was the addition of the writer's new name which she acquired some years after Mr. Krieg passed on.

The European, and possibly the most correct, solution where a former married name must be retained and a new one added, would have been the use of a hyphenated name. But since such usage, not employed any where else in Zeta records, would have been confined solely to the *History*, that course did not seem to be the appropriate one. The final solution—one of the writer's own evolving—was the retention of the earlier name for a period of time, with the present name added in parentheses, then later with the parentheses dropped. After 1942 the earlier name was often omitted altogether. It is hoped that the various forms and combinations used throughout the *History* will be understood, and in any case, Shirley Kreasan Krieg, Shirley Krieg Strout and Shirley Kreasan Strout are all one and the same person.

Examining phase two in the category of personal mention: In the logical order of events it naturally became necessary to mention the writer's relations with the various activities of the fraternity, scrutinize the years in which *Themis* was under her editorship, report the publication and reviews of the two earlier volumes of the *History*, and so on.

Experience and training teach one (and *have* taught this officer) the perspective—or knack—of writing objectively in such situations, which have not been uncommon. One learns to stand aside, take a good look, and then write about oneself in an official capacity as if one were another person. "Seeing ourselves as others see us," becomes a saying brought to life—and, incidentally, it is quite a salutary experience.

But, for the most part, quotations from others, from records, reports, publications and other sources have been used for such coverage or summation. Leaving voids, or omitting facts or parts of the Zeta story because of the writer's participation in them was, of course, neither permissible, rational, nor good history. So it is hoped that the demands of history have been served with objectivity and good taste.

### Acknowledgments

Acknowledgments are due to the long list of charter members who looked over the histories of their chapters, to Central Office for checking names and supplying married names and other requested information, to the officers who replied to various letters of inquiry, to the Founders and the Reverend Plummer Jones for sending additional information, and to Alice Bland Coleman and Dr. Jones for their scrutiny and approval of manuscripts. Clair Woodruff Bugg, as of yore, was our mainstay in Farmville.

To Dr. Dabney Lancaster, for checking and approving the chapter on Longwood College, and to Mrs. Meade L. Shackelford, public relations director, through whose prompt cooperation the inclusion of Longwood's 1859 picture was made possible, the Historian expresses her appreciation. And to all those who, in any way, helped in the promotion of these endeavors—a sincere “thank you.”

Last, but not least, to my husband goes unbounded appreciation for his steadfast cooperation and assistance (in a score of ways) during the years that this book was in the writing and publication stages. Always standing by, giving encouragement and inspiration when the going was rugged, his understanding, backing and support merit more than a grateful “thank you.” Without him this volume might not have been possible.

### Looking Backward

Years ago *Banta's Greek Exchange* expressed the conviction that “To the mind of the writer there is no heavier task laid upon the shoulders of any man devoted to his fraternity than to be its Historian. Such a man must literally bury himself in ancient documents, passing over nothing at all for fear that some little, obscure, single sheet may bring out an important bit of history; perhaps be the one document that discloses the reason for a custom or thing that has long been accepted as a fact without the knowledge of how that fact itself arose. But the larger thing is the sort of mind, the sort of training, the instinct itself to put life into the cold recital of dead facts.”

To one who is intrigued by the stranger-than-fiction stories of real life, the instinct is strong, if not unquenchable, “to put life into the cold recital of dead facts,” for there is always life back of those “dead facts.”

The author's first delving back into Zeta Tau Alpha's past began years ago. When she gave the fraternity its first *History* she said: “Until the publication of an authentic record, it is possible for a given few only, to know the real facts of the fraternity, and the knowledge of that given few can seldom be extended beyond the years of their own experience. . . . Thus the entire field of inquiry, of learning the full story from the earliest years, falls to the Historian . . .”

Rich in associations and experiences were those years when the Historian was



surveying "the entire field . . . and learning the full story from the earliest years." Equally rich have been the succeeding years that happily retained and added to those associations. And truer now than it was then is the Historian's reflection in the earlier *History* that "because it may never again be necessary for anyone to delve so deeply and thoroughly into the beginning and early days of Zeta Tau Alpha, and because of the constant changes wrought by time, the close personal connections with so many early members and their families may never [again] be accorded any other officer in similar measure."

Succeeding years have put the seal of finality upon that statement. It is, and forever will be true; for the years *have* wrought their inevitable changes, and many of that treasured group are no longer here. And in the mind and memory of one person now lies stored the lore and history—both official and unofficial—of Zeta Tau Alpha. The Historian is deeply grateful for, and mindful of, the unique privilege of these continuing years of inspiring service and relationships, and for the loving action of the Founders at the 1948 convention in electing her an honorary member of the Founders' group—an honor she holds dear.

### Conclusion

"As is true of everything worth doing, the joy of achievement [will] obliterate from memory both the difficulties and the toil," and at this, the completion of Zeta's half-century record, the Historian "holds but one wish—that these volumes may be found of enduring value to Zeta Tau Alpha." For they were written with that aim in mind.

Since history repeats itself, and a full-bodied knowledge of a country's or fraternity's past is always of great worth to those in decision-making posts, it is especially hoped that conscientious officers of the future will find this fifty-year story a valuable reference book.

And now we end the saga of the first half-century of "one of the great Greek groups to come out of Virginia and spread its membership and influence all over the world." The past has closed over five decades. The unfolding sixth is of the living present. May the years leading to the diamond jubilee be as fraught with success and fulfillment as were the ones leading to the golden anniversary—and may this volume serve to interpret and keep alive the vibrant story of an era which, in all too short a time, oncoming generations of Zetas-yet-to-be will place firmly, but we hope gently, in the realm of the "good old days."

SHIRLEY KREASAN STROUT

Champaign, Illinois  
March 24, 1956

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### THE ROTUNDA OF LONGWOOD COLLEGE—1955

The Rotunda is not only the entrance to the college, but it is symbolic of the Longwood campus.

It is the central portion of Ruffner Hall, the administration building.

## *Ante-Bellum Education for Women*

HOW DID one get an education in the pre-1860 days, and more especially, how did women acquire one—if they did?

Since fraternities are inseparably linked with education, the latter in fact being responsible for the emergence of those organizations, a brief consideration of the days when the foundation of southern women's future education was being laid has significance to the Zeta story.

Because Zeta Tau Alpha was founded in Virginia and remained exclusively in the South for many years, the southern school system, and especially that of Virginia, has bearing, for in significant measure its influence endured through the years and had a distinct effect upon the lives and upbringing of the founding Zetas. Thus, an understanding of that period brings greater understanding of the background from which Zeta sprang.

There are indications that the South had more schools for women than did the North, and there is evidence that the two sections of the country regarded the educating of their women from different viewpoints. The South had a strong attachment to the arts and graces. Happy-hearted girls went happily to female schools attuned to and planned for the pre-marriage interlude in their lives. The North wanted sterner stuff. But the sections were not so far apart in sharing the times' quaint backwardness on this hotly debated subject.

Even north of the Mason-Dixon line "it was customary to deplore the mere suggestion of degrees for women, as ostentatious aping of man. A woman with a degree would be unsexed, since by divine will woman was assigned to domestic duties, [and] true womanliness required that a woman escape, not command public attention."<sup>1</sup>

The South began establishing various types of schools for girls at a very early date, and many were scattered throughout that region when the North was still trying to get its educational program for women under way. "To be sure," said one writer,

there were in the South institutions for the education of young ladies, calling themselves colleges, but the North was wary of southern education. Even where these schools compared favorably with the masculine colleges in their vicinity, the North found their standards lower than its own. Since the North did not give degrees to women, it was a matter of jest that the South did.<sup>2</sup>



In fact, "in the spring of 1834 . . . there was merriment over the 'Young Ladies College' in Kentucky" which granted degrees.

"However, girls of the North did not generally go South for their schooling any more than did their brothers" although "now and then parents sent daughters to southern schools to acquire the languid grace and the perfection of manner of the southern lady. . ."<sup>3</sup>

In the North no seminary conferred degrees, while the South had numerous seminaries, some of which survived the years.

Meanwhile, the commonly-held belief that women's mental capacities were incapable of grasping the subjects of a general education such as the men grappled with was being challenged.

When "A BILL—to be entitled an act to establish a public seat of learning for the education of females"<sup>4</sup> was introduced in the Georgia legislature in 1825 by the Honorable Duncan G. Campbell, it was necessary to disclaim "the opinion that she is deficient in intellectual endowment." This the bill did when it maintained that "the intellectual capabilities of females have never been fairly or accurately tested. Let it not be said that her mind is not susceptible of great improvements. Away with the supposition that she cannot master the sciences or understand the higher branches of literature. Give her an opportunity, and science will be her handmaid, philosophy her companion, and literature her plaything."

That "the cultivation of the female mind is inconsistent with the domestic duties of the wife, and that her time could be more appropriately and profitably employed in studying the thrifty arts of household industry, than in acquiring a taste for intellectual enjoyments" was another persistent belief that had to be met. Branding it as "not true," the author of the bill contended that "knowledge will interfere with no duty in life, nor will it weaken the force of any obligation imposed by nature or society."

To back up his contention, the concluding lines eloquently expounded

. . . a few data, that will tend to show the necessity of adopting in our country, and particularly in our state, an enlightened and systematic course of female education. There are in the United States 2,000,000 of mothers—rearing up the future defenders of our liberty, and supporters of our institutions—and of this number what proportion is qualified to fashion and direct a mind, formed in the finest mould, and wrought for immortality? . . .

In our country there are sixty-one colleges containing extensive philosophical and chemical apparatus, valuable cabinets of minerals, and libraries that embrace more than 300,000 volumes—and to the disgrace of the nation be it spoken, not one is dedicated to the cause of female education. No apparatus explains the principles of her studies . . . no libraries throw their collected light upon her neglected mind . . .

Give the female the same advantage of instruction with the male; afford her the same opportunities for improvement, and she will struggle with the boldest mind for mastery in science and in letters, and outstrip in the proud race of distinction many of the favored objects of parental solicitude and legislative bounty. Shall not these advantages be afforded



her? The spirit of the age is destined soon, I trust, to shed its blessing upon the female mind. . . . In view of its future triumph, who will step forth the champion of an injured cause? Who will dare, nobly dare, to introduce in our state an enlightened system of female education?

Early-nineteenth century Georgia did dare. The passage of the bill was responsible for the chartering of Wesleyan College, the first college for women to receive a charter from any state. And it was soon to become the birthplace of secret societies<sup>5</sup> for women.

Interestingly enough, Buckingham County, from whence came many early Zetas [including Maud Jones (Horner) and Grace Elcan (Garnett)]\* was the location of "the first attempt ever made in Virginia to establish a school of high grade for girls. Chartered in 1840, the Buckingham Female College was founded by a few Methodist brethren" without the formal sanction of the Conference. It started with flourishing prospects, but came to a disastrous close in a year or two.<sup>6</sup>

The pioneer institutions of higher learning for women in Virginia that endured are Mary Baldwin Seminary, at Staunton, Virginia (where Eta chapter was located) and Hollins College, near Roanoke. Both schools were established in 1842, within the period of the great educational awakening in America (1830-50). Both were originally established by men from the North, with courses paralleling those offered in men's colleges. Bonneted girls probably thought nothing of riding tiresome miles in jiggling stage coaches to reach these popular schools. This was the period of the academies, when the tendency was to establish schools for girls on a plan similar to that of boys' schools, except that the former usually went by the name of "seminary." Too, there was a differentiation in the curricula. Literature, music and art were usually listed for the girls, in lieu of the traditional subjects of ancient languages and mathematics, but Mary Baldwin Seminary and Hollins College (formerly the home of Alpha Lambda chapter) introduced advanced courses which paralleled those taught the men.

But not all southern girls of means attended these seminaries. "Too modern" was the ante-bellum edict in many cases. "Not befitting," thought the southern gentleman and his lady. They firmly believed that with a study of Latin and French under the supervision of a learned governess, the southern miss would be equal to companionship with intelligent and cultivated men. As well, Italian and German professors taught them the arts of the pianoforte, and they enchanted their beaux with the songs they sang in "sweet, natural voices." "Flow

\* Married names are placed in parentheses throughout this volume, although after a member's name—for instance, that of Maud Jones Horner—has been established by constant recurrence, the parentheses are occasionally dropped since it is assumed that the reader is by then familiar with both the maiden and married names of the persons mentioned.

Gently, Sweet Afton" was a favorite about that time. Indeed, one daughter of the South was so enchanted with it that a famous Mississippi estate was named Afton Villa.

Brought up amid treasured antiquities, the Virginia girl did not disturb herself about modern fashions, appearing happy in her mother's lustrous old silks and heavy satins. She rejoiced in her grandmother's laces, slept in the high canopied bed of her ancestors, washed her face from a wash basin on an old-fashioned spindle-legged washstand; perhaps mounted a chair to fix her hair before the mirror on a high bureau. She rarely had occasion to make what the world calls a *début*. The flow of company at her father's house called for her assistance in entertaining the guests early in her life. Perhaps a trip to New York City brightened things a bit. To one such Virginia girl New York left the impression of "a city of water-pipes, and dumb waiters, and enterprise and money."<sup>7</sup>

Not only was she expected to excel in the social graces and the art of being a gracious hostess but she was expected to learn the supervision of every detail of domestic employment on a plantation—the weaving, knitting, sewing, et cetera, and the direction of Negro servants who would someday be under her care. Girls then laboriously drew threads of finest linen for their own or their brother's garments (the sewing machine had not yet been invented), engaged in many kinds of intricate needle-work, and learned home management, all in the course of preparing themselves to take charge, on some future day, of other stately homes, and of becoming intelligent, gracious companions to their husbands.

The ante-bellum approach to education fell into three categories: the "free," or public schools; the seminaries and higher institutions of learning and private tutorial instruction, with the balance of educational opportunity found on the side of the wealthier class.

In Virginia the problem of providing general popular education was more complicated than in most of her sister states. Politically she had accepted a democratic government, while her society was organized on an aristocratic basis.

A system of free schools, based on a general state appropriation, appeared adequate for the times, but actually few of these ante-bellum "free schools" were really free. Founded on a combination of local and state funds, they called for contributions from parents, many of whom could not pay. Some states paid the tuition of the children of such parents from public funds so the "free schools" began to be called "pauper schools," a stigmatizing appellation. The term made them popular with no one and since this was incompatible with the democratic principles professed by Americans, the schools received little or no encouragement prior to the War Between the States. As a consequence, their contribution toward culture was negligible.

This did not indicate an indifference to education, but rather it pointed up the unfavorable position of those who had to depend upon public or free education, and was one of the reasons it was not more generally utilized.

For the dominant classes there were avenues other than the public schools. Like England of the eighteenth century, the South abounded in readers of good literature, and many of the fine old plantation homes had "elegantly appointed libraries."<sup>8</sup> Each large southern mansion had at least one tutor, and in some of the most affluent, two or three tutors, usually from abroad, were employed. The George Mason household, for instance, had three Scotsmen, of whom "the last two were especially engaged [in Scotland] to come to America (as was the practice in those days with families of means), by the father, to live in his house and educate the children."<sup>9</sup>

Again, as in the case of the Washingtons, it was customary for many of the young southerners to be sent to England. Usually they went to ultra-royalist Oxford, instead of to Puritanism-implemented Cambridge.

"These tutors taught the girls of the family as well as the boys, but the instruction beyond the rudiments of reading and writing took a different course with the girls. However, there are a number of instances in the first part of the eighteenth century where the girls must have had classical training to a very considerable extent, for . . . some of the noted men<sup>10</sup> of the colony received their preparation in the classics for entrance to William and Mary from their mothers." Indeed many of them taught their children. But "the girls' training was more often directed into the field of literature, with lessons in elocution and English grammar.

"This tutorial system of instruction, so popular in England, seems to have been held in high esteem in Virginia, particularly among the planters."<sup>11</sup> In reading the sketches of the Founders it is noticeable that even they, long years after ante-bellum days, received their early instruction from private teachers.

Higher education was also supplied by the establishment of colleges and universities which began early in the country's history.

As early as 1621, provision was made to appropriate funds for the establishment of schools for the "education of children and the grounding of them in the principles of religion." For seventy years this got no further, but in 1693, the College of William and Mary,<sup>12</sup> at Williamsburg, Virginia, was established and chartered. The oldest in the United States after Harvard, William and Mary might almost be said to be the oldest college in America inasmuch as it was practically established in 1622,<sup>13</sup> eight years before Winthrop and his followers came to Massachusetts Bay.

While the first state university was that of North Carolina,<sup>14</sup> founded in 1790, the first American university of the German type was the University of Virginia, which opened its doors in 1825.



The first institution to introduce coeducation was Blount College, which, about 1800, conferred the degree of A.B. upon a woman.<sup>15</sup>

At last a woman had been granted a degree—and not too long after the establishment of the first colleges! But there was a long, long road ahead before women would generally be accorded full educational rights, or be considered capable of utilizing them.

While prevailing opinion in 1842 held a very dim view of this, John Holt Rice, a prominent Presbyterian minister and educator, had this to say in stressing the need for “academies, both male and female”:

Perhaps there is no country in the world where the women are more completely domestic than they are in our own; and none where female influence is more generally felt. This is a happy circumstance, and it affords a fanciful argument in favor of female education. But suppose that parents generally wished to give their daughters a good education, where would they find the means? There are perhaps four or five good female schools, but in almost every instance raised by the individual exactions of their teachers.<sup>16</sup>

While deploring the lack of educational facilities, Mr. Rice's plea did not indicate or imply a cultural void among the early southern women, who, as has been pointed out, were brought up in the midst of learning and luxury; whose fathers directed the work of their slaves and attended to business affairs, while their mothers instructed their daughters in needlework, homemaking and the fine arts. For they, too, had tutors who taught them poetry by the volume, some history, English, French and of course, music.

And yet, despite the great number of southern girls whose instruction came from tutors, the colleges grew. The fact that these colleges opened up a broader field of knowledge and offered the opportunity for companionship with other girls of their own age undoubtedly caused many a southern girl to inveigle her parents into allowing her “to go off to college.” When Georgia Wesleyan “was opened, young ladies who could possibly afford it, were delighted with the chance.”

Before 1860, practically all of the secondary schools in Virginia were private, and took the name “academy.” Of the 175 incorporated academies which taught the classics, higher mathematics and the sciences, sixty-nine were for women. These rapid strides in “female schools” were evidently made between Mr. Rice's day and the war.

Obviously coeducation played virtually no part in the educational life of this period, and the South was slow to accept it for decades after the war. Girls should have their schools and boys should have theirs, and never the twain should meet. That was their thinking. But while education made steady progress, it remained for the upheaval caused by the War Between the States to bring about the radical changes that were advancing upon the age.

## Post-War

"Virginia was the social and educational leader in the eleven commonwealths which seceded, and the close of the war found all her social order and industrial institutions in a state of collapse." She had been shorn of an important area in the formation of the new state of West Virginia. "The remaining section east of the Alleghenies had been a battle ground for four terrible years."<sup>17</sup> Struggle and the dark days of the Reconstruction followed.

"The years making up the close of the nineteenth and the beginning of the twentieth century saw a new awakening throughout the whole South. The people were forgetting the struggles of the past, and before them they saw a new vision of the future and felt the return of the old-time consciousness of power. A new generation was coming on. Certain leaders in the old were giving their full energies to the rebuilding of the South out of the more permanent and abiding ideals that remained from the wreck of war and from the industrial, civil, and social disorganization. The new South was finding itself. . . ."<sup>18</sup>

## Bibliography and Supplementary Notes

1. Boas, *Woman's Education Begins*.
2. *Ibid*.
3. *Ibid*.
4. *The History of Phi Mu Fraternity*.
5. The Adelphean and Philomathean Societies, forerunners of Alpha Delta Pi (1905) and Phi Mu (1904).
6. Heatwole, *A History of Education in Virginia*.
7. Letitia Burwell, *A Girl's Life in Virginia Before the War*.
8. Hart, *The Southern South*.
9. Rowland, *Life of George Mason*.
10. George Whythe's mother prepared him for the College of William and Mary.
11. Heatwole, *A History of Education in Virginia*.
12. The College of William and Mary, founded by James Blair (president for fifty years), was the first college in America to introduce teaching by lectures, and the first to use the elective system of study. It was the second in the English world to have a chair of municipal law; it was the first in America to establish a chair of history and political science; and it was one of the first to pursue a secular and unsectarian policy. It was chartered by King William and Queen Mary, the only American college to receive its charter from the English Crown. Again, it was the only college in the western hemisphere that received a coat of arms from the College of Heralds and it later introduced the honor system. True to Virginia conservatism, it did not open its doors to women until 1918.
13. The movement for the establishment of the college was started in 1619, but the Indian Massacres of 1622 put an end to it. Plans were revived in 1660.
14. Alexander Mebane, the great-great-grandfather of Frances Yancey Smith was a member of the first board of trustees of the University of North Carolina, and was one of a com-

mittee of three to select the site for the university. He was also in Congress from 1793-95.

15. Hart, op. cit., p. 290.

16. Morrison, *The Beginnings of Public Education in Virginia, 1776-1860*.

17. Heatwole, *A History of Education in Virginia*

18. *Ibid.*



# *The South and Women's Fraternities*

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## *The Farmville Four*

AT A PERIOD when northern fraternities for women had emerged from the experimental and trial stages and were being established on a firm footing, the South, so far as women's groups were concerned, was practically an untouched field. Prior to the formation of the Farmville groups, the southern field had been left entirely to its own resources.

Considering the type of education found, or not found, in ante-bellum days, and what the War Between the States did to the South, it is not surprising that the fraternity idea, in active form, appeared much later in the South than in the North. In fact, it was not until the last decade of the nineteenth century—that fabulous period nostalgically known as the Gay Nineties—that women's Greek-letter groups began to appear in areas of the South. Nor was it surprising that southern women were found forming their own organizations, and that they did it at about the same time.

The northern-born nationals for women had confined their activities to the North. The South had not been included in their expansion, although once the northern groups had made a beginning, the idea spread from campus to campus and they expanded rapidly and strengthened and grew. However, regardless of that, it is doubtful if northern groups, emerging from colleges and backgrounds so different, would logically have looked to, or been interested in, the southern field generally at the turn of the century. At any rate, they did not "look away to Dixie," and they were not interested in extension possibilities south of the Mason-Dixon line.

To what extent did this influence the founding of Zeta Tau Alpha? Surprisingly—to no extent! While perspective and research throw a clear and interesting light on the fraternity situation as it existed as the last decade of the nineteenth century opened, the findings, as far as Zeta Tau Alpha is concerned, are illuminating in a general way, but they are neither motivating nor important, although one might assume that the northern nationals' disinterest in the South was a dominant factor in the nine Virginians forming their own national. But that was not the case. For Zeta's Founders had never heard of, and did not know

about, the women's Greek-letter groups that existed in the North. Nor did they care. They had their own plans and purpose in organizing. Even the situation at Farmville was vastly different from that found at colleges where northern nationals were founded.

Prior to the Civil War very few colleges were open to women in any part of the country, and higher education for them meant attendance at a young ladies' seminary or finishing school, where the curriculum consisted largely of English literature and composition, the drama, French, art and music. But all that was changed after the war. Many state-controlled and financed colleges and universities were established and they were not closed to women students. Privately endowed colleges also began to see the light, and women were accepted on the campus very grudgingly, but they were there to stay.

"The next logical step was the founding of fraternities for women, and this came about, of course, from women being on the campus at all. Women were tolerated, but very little thought, if any, was given to either their social or physical welfare. In the beginning then, fraternities were the only means whereby a social program for women could be established on campuses that provided nothing for them. In fact, they were founded to satisfy all those needs with which the young growing colleges and universities were very little concerned."<sup>1</sup>

The picture was different in Farmville. The very young girls at the Normal were attending a school especially planned for them, where every thought was for them, and where their welfare, as well as their education, came first. In accord with the times, they had a simple, charming social life. They made close friends—so close, in fact, that the desire to perpetuate those friendships beyond college days became a motivating factor in the founding of Zeta Tau Alpha. So theirs was a different world from that which brought women's fraternities into existence in the North, and even their reason for organizing was different.

What made them think of becoming a national from the very beginning? Out of the amplitude of their happiness in their friendships and associations there welled the desire to share it with other girls in other schools. Next, unquestionably, they were influenced by brothers who were fraternity members, especially Plummer Jones, an ardent fraternity man who was nationally minded and from whom his sister absorbed a wealth of fraternity knowledge. Then there were beaux and well-wishers who were interested in them—in the girls themselves, as well as the fraternity they were forming.

Returning to a study of the expansion policies of the northern-born fraternities: There were just two exceptions. Alpha Omicron Pi, founded in 1897 in New York, placed a chapter at Sophie Newcomb College, in New Orleans, in 1898, while Illinois-born Pi Beta Phi established a chapter there in 1891, as well as one at Goucher College, in Maryland, in 1897. But that was the extent of southern grants made by the northern groups prior to 1898.

By virtue of the economic and educational picture after the war, it may have been that the South was not ready for women's Greek-letter organizations until the beginning of the nineties. Only one had even tried to make a start. Delta Gamma,<sup>2</sup> founded in 1874 at the Oxford Female Institute (formerly known as the Lewis School), in Oxford, Mississippi, established several southern chapters, but they were all out of existence by 1885. Before that time, however, and through an unusual circumstance, Delta Gamma<sup>3</sup> had been taken north. It was that part of the country, and not the South, that assured Delta Gamma's continuation. By 1898, Delta Gamma's only representative in a southern state was the Goucher College chapter, which was installed in 1891.

From 1874 until 1895, when Chi Omega was founded at the University of Arkansas, no other southern group to bear a Greek name before the turn of the century came into being. "Chi Omega was founded by four women students who were inspired and assisted by Dr. Charles Richardson, a southerner by training and tradition, and a Virginian by birth. He was deeply impressed by the need for a women's fraternity in the South, which was at that time practically untouched by the organizations from the North."<sup>4</sup> When the newly formed group found that the northern fraternities were not interested in going south, Dr. Richardson<sup>5</sup> advised them to organize their own national. Recalling those days of decision, he wrote in a 1902 greeting:

In studying the matter from the viewpoint of the sorority I was strongly convinced that the time was most auspicious then for the launching of a new national sorority, inasmuch as those already in existence, with the exception of one, had thus far *declined overtures from the South*. I felt that a sorority whose policy should embrace first class institutions without reference to section would make a great success.

But Chi Omega, scarcely two years old, was still in the early stages of development when the first of the four Farmville groups was announced. By 1898, Chi Omega had established two chapters. It is not likely that either Delta Gamma or Chi Omega were known to the Virginians who laid their organization plans from 1897 on. It is a certainty that Zeta Tau Alpha's Founders had never heard of them.

Many colleges and famous finishing schools for women were scattered throughout the South, some of them dating back to the early part of the nineteenth century. Several had secret organizations and from this group, surviving the War Between the States, came two later National Panhellenic Conference organizations that adopted Greek names and achieved their first expansion after 1900.

The Adelphian and Philomathean societies were founded at Georgia Wesleyan College and existed in that form for over half a century. Then, soon after the turn of the century (1900), they assumed Greek names and policies and incorporated under the laws of Georgia, with a view to becoming national organizations.



Said to be the first secret society for women, the Adelphean Society, founded in 1851, took the Greek name of Alpha Delta Phi in 1905. But because that name was already held by Alpha Delta Phi, one of the oldest of the men's fraternities, it was later changed to Alpha Delta Pi,<sup>6</sup> and in 1910 the renamed group was admitted to the National Panhellenic Conference.

Organized in 1852, the Philomathean Society took the Greek name of Phi Mu in 1904, one year before the Adelphean Society adopted Greek nomenclature. It was admitted to the Conference in 1912.

Since both of these organizations remained local, non-Greek societies, and did not extend beyond Georgia Wesleyan for more than half a century, they cannot be considered as a part of the fraternity picture during the time the Virginians were planning. They were not offering Greek-letter affiliation to the girls of the South at that time.

Thus the list of southern-born Greek-letter fraternities for women founded prior to the end of the century that maintained active expansion and existence as a fraternity from the date of founding narrows down to:

Arkansas-born Chi Omega (1895); Kappa Delta, founded late in 1897 at Farmville; Sigma Sigma Sigma and Zeta Tau Alpha founded at Longwood College in 1898, with Alpha Sigma Alpha following in 1901. In other words—Chi Omega and the Farmville Four.<sup>7</sup> While of southern origin, Delta Gamma had found a place in the North.

The time for new groups was propitious. In fact, it was exactly right, and the timing could not have been better. In college was a generation whose only knowledge of the war was through stories handed down. The ever-expanding interest in Greek-letter organizations at the turn of the century was everywhere evident in America. It was demonstrated at Farmville in the somewhat unusual record of the Farmville Four, who, in turn, reflected a trend of the day, and filled the not-to-be-denied need for the close ties of group life and lasting associations ever sought by human nature. The highest ideals brought fraternities into existence in the first place when the nineteenth century was new. The same striving for and devotion to those ideals motivated the fraternity Founders when the century was waning.

That the Founders and early members aspired at once to national status demonstrated their vision and confidence, although, as Alice Coleman said later, it was the confidence of those who ventured where angels feared to tread. Unaware of the magnitude of the task ahead, they could not be afraid of what they did not know, or realize. Therefore they aspired to the heights. And they had more than dreams behind them.

In the first place their college was by far the largest for women in the state. It had an unusual setting. The students were of the highest calibre. They had background and purpose and ambition. Virginia was at that time a strong

fraternity center and many of the girls had brothers and friends who were fraternity members. The fraternity system was, therefore, well known to them. So the thought of branching out was already planted in their minds through observing the various chapters placed by the men's groups.

While their neighbors seem not to have influenced the early Zetas in their organization plans, Sigma Sigma Sigma recalled "the dates with the Hampden-Sydney boys on week-ends, house parties at Virginia Beach and Old Point Comfort, and long serious discussions. . . . It was from these stimulating discussions and from that visit to the Kappa Sigma fraternity house that their wonderful idea of a national sorority at Farmville first found inspiration."

Thus the stage was set and the Farmville Four was started on October 23, 1897, with the founding of Kappa Delta. Sigma Sigma Sigma and Zeta Tau Alpha were announced in 1898, while Alpha Sigma Alpha completed the quartette in 1901. Courageously all four groups set out to establish other chapters. And all four were successful. College girls of that era definitely sought fraternity affiliation and entered the new chapters eagerly. Faculty opposition was sometimes encountered but within ten years the four had established forty chapters in finishing schools, seminaries and universities. With the entrance into the collegiate field, however, they encountered something that sent them, two by two, down separate paths for many years.

That something was the Inter-Sorority Conference and the formidable competition of its member groups. When the Farmville Four entered the collegiate field they met the competition of strongly entrenched northern nationals for the first time. Not only that, but these groups had banded together in a new Conference whose member groups had to meet certain admission requirements. Most important to the Virginians was the stipulation that all the chapters of member organizations had to be in institutions of full college rank and standing. Any group having chapters in finishing schools, teachers' colleges or seminaries was ineligible. Northern groups that had chapters in non-approved locations quickly conformed after the new standards were set up.

Its member groups enjoyed the prestige and power attached to the widely known Inter-Sorority Conference. Non-Conference groups were at a decided disadvantage in competing with them for new chapters. So Zeta Tau Alpha took stock. The South was full of seminaries and finishing schools attended by girls of superior calibre and background. Although not many, naturally Zeta Tau Alpha had chapters in some schools not on the Conference's eligibility list, for the fraternity originally looked to that field for its first extension.

As time went on it became evident to the leaders of the four Farmville groups that one of two courses was open to them. They could elect to stay in the field of the teachers' college (still known as normal schools), or they could cast their lot with the Inter-Sorority Conference (later the National

Panhellenic Conference). Each had to choose the road that best fulfilled its destiny. In each case the future status of the mother chapter was at stake. Balanced against that was the future course of the fraternity as a whole.

Zeta Tau Alpha was the first of the four to take a definite step. In 1906, by relinquishing chapters in ineligible institutions, including the mother chapter, Conference requirements were met. Zeta Tau Alpha was formally admitted in February, 1909. Sigma Sigma Sigma temporized for a while, but in 1911 she decided to limit her chapters to teachers' colleges. Kappa Delta later followed the course of Zeta Tau Alpha. Alpha Sigma Alpha, like Sigma Sigma Sigma, elected to become an educational<sup>8</sup> sorority.

Thus Zeta Tau Alpha and Kappa Delta became N.P.C. organizations. In due time Sigma Sigma Sigma and Alpha Sigma Alpha joined with other groups, who maintained chapters on teachers' college campuses almost exclusively, in the formation of the Association of Education Sororities, which was organized in 1915. For many years N.P.C. had a "gentlemen's agreement" with the A.E.S. groups. Neither was to place a chapter in the other's field.

But as the years passed the status of the teachers' college underwent changes and developments that made less distinct the once very distinct fields. In the evolution of things, normal schools became teachers' colleges and teachers' colleges became general colleges or universities. With broadened curricula the teachers' colleges were no longer considered primarily teacher training institutions. Many changed their names and became either colleges or universities.

This metamorphosis was recognized in 1947 when six educational sororities, including Sigma Sigma Sigma and Alpha Sigma Alpha, were admitted to N.P.C. as associate members. At the end of the required four years, full membership was granted in 1951.

Reflective of developments through the years, associate membership was contingent, in each case, upon the elimination by June 1, 1948, of all chapters on campuses not meeting N.P.C. educational rating requirements and of all dual memberships involving N.P.C. fraternities. The six fraternities . . . made up the Association of Education Sororities with whom N.P.C. has, for many years, had a 'gentlemen's agreement' which established the colleges accredited by the Association of American Colleges and Universities or the appropriate regional association, as the field of N.P.C., and those accredited by the Association of Teachers' Colleges and those on whose campuses there were established A.E.S. chapters, as the field of A.E.S.

Then, significantly: With the

increasingly serious overlapping of interests and a constant decrease in the strictly teachers' college field, [and] because of its sincere desire to help these fraternities meet successfully the many problems connected with their establishment as N.P.C., rather than A.E.S. fraternities, N.P.C. voted that: Not until January 1, 1949, shall any overtures leading to future chapters be made by or given consideration by any member groups of N.P.C., active or associate, on campuses now occupied by the present A.E.S. groups.<sup>9</sup>



When the agreed-upon-time had elapsed, Zeta Tau Alpha returned to Farmville and reestablished her Alpha chapter at Longwood College in February, 1949, by the absorption of Mu Omega, an old and well-established local sorority. Kappa Delta followed that spring. Sigma Sigma Sigma and Alpha Sigma Alpha had never left.

Completing the cycle started before the nineteenth century came to a close, the Farmville Four were together again on the campus of their birth.

### Supplementary Notes

1. From a talk delivered by Gladys Drach Power, NPC Delegate of Alpha Chi Omega, at the 175th anniversary observance of Phi Beta Kappa, Williamsburg, Virginia, December 1, 1951.
2. Of Delta Gamma's twenty-six chapters, thirteen were inactive by 1889. This included the southern chapters, as well as the first chapter.

The motive of Delta Gamma's three founders in "forming the Delta Gamma Society" was to "Do Good." Wrote Leulah Judson Hawley, long-time Delta Gamma officer: "The Greek letters, Delta Gamma, were selected for this reason, although the Greek words chosen at the time bore no relation to that motto. Other than this altruistic reason uppermost in the minds of the three lovely and sweet-natured girls, there was avowedly no motive for the founding of Delta Gamma except the desire for close and exclusive association in a society similar to that of the men's fraternities to which their brothers and friends belonged. Nothing was more remote from the thought of those girls than the conscious establishment of a large women's fraternity."

3. It was a man, George Banta, Sr., who took Delta Gamma north. It was he who "initiated the first members of Delta Gamma as an intercollegiate sorority. And the establishment of it as such," he wrote, "grew out of an imagined need for a third sorority in the colleges of Indiana, due to the oftentimes rancorous college politics of those days. In 1878 Delta Gamma had two living chapters, both in boarding schools, but the parent chapter was in Oxford, Mississippi, in a school 'having an enrollment not to exceed thirty-five girls.' It was the typical southern girls' boarding school, privately owned, without pretension of preparing for college. It was still that day in the South when girls did not 'go to college' and when that privilege was reserved generally for their brothers."

A Mississippi Phi Delta Theta suggested Delta Gamma as a possible third organization to ease the embattled Greek situation in Indiana. Correspondence followed, but Mr. Banta made little progress in establishing a group at Franklin College, because he knew so little about Delta Gamma. He wrote a discouraged, and what he thought would be final, letter, but it brought, in a fortnight, the news that he had been elected an honorary member of Psi chapter of Delta Gamma. The secret material was sent to him. It was then that he "formed the group at Franklin and initiated them." Thus Delta Gamma gained an all-important foothold in the North. And naturally Mr. Banta was a member in good standing of Delta Gamma for the rest of his life. He often attended Delta Gamma conventions.

4. Miss Hilda Threlkeld, former Vice-President of Chi Omega, who wrote the lines quoted, added that Chi Omega's "first expansion was into small women's colleges, where members of the mother chapter happened to go as teachers, but by 1900 it was agreed to limit all future expansion to A Grade colleges."

5. "It was two or three years before I succeeded in getting the girls to adopt my views," Dr. Richardson continued, "as they naturally looked upon an undertaking of such magnitude with much misgiving. Finally, however, after Chi Omega had had three years of local existence, it was definitely decided to make the attempt. . . ." Because of his wide knowledge of fraternity affairs he was asked to assist in the preparation of a constitution and ritual "for the purpose of establishing a local," to quote Dr. Richardson, a Kappa Sigma.
6. Regarding the "general impression that the early Wesleyan societies were strictly literary societies," Dorothy P. Shaw, an historian of Alpha Delta Pi, wrote that "they seem to have had all the earmarks of the typical fraternity of their day. Membership was not open, admission was by election, and balloting on names was secret. Members wore a badge very similar to the one now in use, though much larger as was the fashion of the time, and the shape of the pin, together with the insignia upon it, had a special significance unknown to those outside."
7. The Farmville Four, as a term, was coined and introduced in the 1928 *History of Zeta Tau Alpha*. Reflecting on the famous Miami Triad (Beta Theta Pi, Sigma Chi and Phi Delta Theta), the author had the inspiration to coin a similar terminology for the Farmville group. Readily adopted, it quickly came into general use.
8. For many years these organizations were known as *pedagogical* groups. After they reserved their charter grants for four-year teachers' colleges and no longer entered two-year normal schools, they adopted the word *educational*.

Of Sigma Sigma Sigma's founding one of their officers, M. Kane Stryker, said, "On April 29, 1898, eight girls at Farmville organized a club, united by friendship only. As the sorority idea became more clearly defined in the school, the local Sigma Sigma Sigma obtained a state charter in 1903, and reorganized as a national. During the next few years eight chapters were added but as these were in different types of schools, problems soon arose because of the varied ideals and needs among the chapters. It was finally decided to give up the college chapters to some established national. This was done in 1911 and at that time Sigma Sigma Sigma entered the normal field as a strictly professional sorority."
9. Miss Amy B. Onken, retiring chairman of N.P.C., in the January-February, 1947, *Themis*.

## Longwood College

OVER A CENTURY ago, in 1835, Martin's *Gazetteer* of Virginia reported that there was "one female school" in Farmville. When a copy of the New Testament, a newspaper, three silver coins and a Masonic emblem were placed in the cornerstone of the first building of the Farmville Female Academy (as it was incorporated in 1839), the foundation for the first normal school in the state of Virginia was unknowingly laid.

The structure was ready for occupancy in 1842, and Solomon Lee, Esquire, became the first principal. In 1860 the legislature changed the name to the "Farmville Female College," but a year later the outbreak of hostilities in the War Between the States blasted both development plans and hopes.

The little academy managed to survive the next crucial years as well as the difficult days of the reconstruction period, but in 1870 the stockholders decided to sell, pay all debts, and distribute the proceeds among themselves. Consequently, in 1873, the property was deeded to G. N. Vickers, who held it until May 29, 1882, when he conveyed it to the president of the college, the Reverend Paul Whitehead. On April 7, 1884, the year that marks the introduction of the normal system into Virginia, the president deeded the academy property to the town of Farmville, and the town immediately presented it to the state of Virginia—the consideration being the establishment of the school there. That this property gift was the deciding factor in the state's decision to award the school to Farmville is mentioned in many accounts.

Thus came about the location of the first normal school in Virginia, and the second in the South.

The historical setting of the quiet Virginia town as the location for this educational experiment of the day is too interesting to go unnoted. Innumerable places in the state achieved historical immortality as the scene of some act in the four-year war drama. Through Farmville went both the Federal troops and the retreating Confederate forces. There they began the peace negotiations which ended the conflict when General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox, a few miles west of Farmville.

In the desperate last days of the war General Lee made a final attempt to break through the northern lines. Continuing his retreat toward Lynchburg, he





FARMVILLE FEMALE SEMINARY in 1859, from an old drawing. Completed in 1842, this building now forms part of Rufner Hall, the administration building of Longwood College.

passed through Farmville, and there began the correspondence with General Grant which led, shortly, to the termination of hostilities. Farmville, therefore, places its principal historical claim upon the part played in bringing about peace. Stories handed down keep alive incidents connected with the days when representatives of both the Federal and Confederate troops were billeted there.

The chaos of reconstruction followed the dispersal of General Lee's forces in April, 1865, and the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. The tattered army of northern Virginia returned to desolate fields and faced the world with Confederate money that was valueless. But pride ran high, and there were



THE NORMAL as the Coleman sisters knew it, showing the protected new trees that had just been set out, the picket fence that all the early members remembered, and the stepping stones that provided precarious footing across wide High Street. This is the picture that Alice Coleman took home with her when she left Farmville.

strength and courage. Virginia began the task of rebuilding a war-scarred state.

Education for the masses previous to 1869 was neither sufficient nor successful. The meager and much maligned provision for the poor white children of the state savored of pauperism, and the schools were never regarded with favor. In 1866, not a single state in the South had a system of public schools, illiteracy was fearfully prevalent, and property values, because of the war, were pitifully diminished.

Then, on July 11, 1870, the first legislature of Virginia to assemble after the war established a system of public schools which ushered in a new educational era. Fourteen years later, however, after the schools had struggled to maintain a stable footing against obvious handicaps, the imminent need for specially trained teachers became evident. Women instructors in free schools were, up to that time, unknown. The men teachers were far from satisfactory; in fact,



accounts of those days have much to say—that is not favorable—about the various male types encountered. It would be difficult to gauge the extent to which this influenced the legislators, but their decision struck a new hour for the daughters of Virginia.

In March, 1884, they passed an act, revolutionary for its time, providing for “a normal school expressly for the training of white female teachers for the public schools.”

The original bill was drafted and presented to the legislature by Dr. J. L. M. Curry, a southern statesman, diplomat, educator and author, who, as an agent of the famous Peabody Fund, performed inestimable service, and became known as the father of the Virginia State Female Normal School. Dr. W. H. Ruffner, Virginia's first Superintendent of Instruction from 1870 to 1882, also had much to do with establishing Virginia's system of public schools along the lines laid down by Thomas Jefferson seventy-five years earlier. He felt the greatest need was for an adequate supply of well-prepared teachers.

Little known, however, is the fact that the new hour for women was struck in contradiction to the original plans of Dr. Ruffner and Dr. Curry. It was not their intention that the plan be confined solely to women. They might even have been a little upset at the outcome, for the 1884 Virginia School Reports offer the explanation that “it is due to the promoters of this enterprise to state that the original bill, as drafted . . . provided for a normal school in the broadest sense of the term, and had no purpose of restricting its benefits to the females only of the state; but after the wisdom of the legislature had done with the bill, its progenitor was hardly able to recognize it. . . .” The bill may not have worked out exactly as they planned, but a great institution came into being and time has vindicated the wisdom of the legislature.

The board of trustees was to supervise, manage and govern the school, making an annual report to the governor, who was invested with power to fill vacancies occurring on the board. Farmville was named as the location, provided the Female College property was properly conveyed. Each city of 500 inhabitants and each county was entitled to one pupil who was to receive gratuitous instruction. One additional pupil was allowed for each additional representative in the house of delegates above one. Satisfactory evidence was required of an applicant's intention to teach at least two years in the Virginia public schools after leaving the Normal. The appropriation to defray the expenses of establishing and continuing the school was \$5,000. The yearly appropriation was \$10,000.

When the first board of trustees met in Richmond, on April 2, 1884, Dr. Curry was elected president. Immediately, though, a problem loomed in the form of the seventh section of the act, which stipulated that the yearly appropriation funds be taken from the public free school funds. This, it was contended, was



unconstitutional. That belief was subsequently upheld by the attorney-general and later by a court of appeal. As a consequence, until April 23, 1884, when an extra session of the legislature amended the act to provide payment from the state treasury, the trustees were without funds.

A committee composed of Dr. Ruffner, Dr. Curry and a Dr. Buchanan, selected to formulate an organization plan for the school, made its report on June 10, 1884, but because of the delay in securing funds the report was not adopted until September 17, 1884. This was important because the report called for the opening of the school on the thirtieth day of the following October—scarcely a month distant.

The task of launching the first institution of this type, so experimental in Virginia, fell to Dr. Ruffner, who became the first principal (president). Despite the handicap of lack of time, the doors opened on the specified date, but with nothing more than "a principal, an appropriation, a rough scheme, and an old academy building—not a teacher, nor a book, nor a piece of apparatus or furniture."

Dr. Ruffner's importance in the history of the school is evident. From 1870-1882 he was State Superintendent of Schools, the first, of course, to hold that position. He created his office, devised the entire system, protected school funds at a trying time, and tried to educate the masses to an intelligent concept of the public school system. He also had to provide for two distinct races, and contend with the post-war depletion of fortunes which obviously made many too poor to be taxed for free schools and others too proud to attend them.

The system he inaugurated was finally prepared as a school bill and made a law of the commonwealth. In 1882 a change in administrative politics brought about his retirement, and two years later he gave the benefit of his rich experience to the Normal School. He and Dr. Curry became the outstanding figures in launching the new undertaking along correct normal lines. Their skill saved the new school from the trials and vexations that attend constant experimentation while successful methods are being sought. The pitfalls of uncertain administration were avoided.

The selection of teachers immediately became a serious problem. The state of Virginia, so new to the normal system, could not supply the specially trained teachers needed for a normal school. Dr. Ruffner traveled north and south. He investigated carefully. The commentary is left that "no applicant got a situation, and not a single one who secured a situation had been an applicant." Later evaluations agreed that "Dr. Ruffner succeeded largely because he reconciled constructive educational ideas then issuing from the North with the best in the Virginia tradition."

Final selection of the vice-principalship fell upon a northern woman, from Connecticut. This was not as odd as it might seem for where, but from the



THE SCHOOL A FEW YEARS LATER. Looking less bleak and raw, this picture was well remembered by the Founders. The trees were young and flourishing, a tower added height to the formerly flat looking buildings, and the fence so vividly remembered by early members, was still there.

North, could the specially trained teachers be secured? Impressed by the efficiency he found at this new female normal, a curious but interested journalist of the day left the comment that "it pleases a Virginian to see how entirely absorbed she [the northerner] is in a Virginia institution, in which she seems almost to have forgotten her Yankee identity . . . and even draws comparisons favorable to Virginia institutions."

But in 1884, the northerner, Miss Celeste E. Bush, had misgivings. "It was a different proposition," she wrote. "Suppose the plan went wrong; who wanted any share in a failure? Virginia politicians had talked much of repudiation; were salaries secure there? The late war was less than two decades away; would a daughter of the North be welcome? With such doubts, it was not strange that she dared not then accept the offer, but she has since been heartily glad that it was repeated, reconsidered, and accepted."

Of the school she said: "So far as professional methods are concerned, Farmville could start at the most advanced point then gained by older normal schools; but for the material equipment it could only, like a fiddler crab, slip into the first vacant shell." In appearance, she added, "no factory or warehouse could be more frankly ugly without or artlessly jumbled within. Its bricks stood awry and its boards were rudely matched and planed. It had grown old, not gracefully, but gloomily and grimly. Organizing the school under all the circumstances were no holiday task."

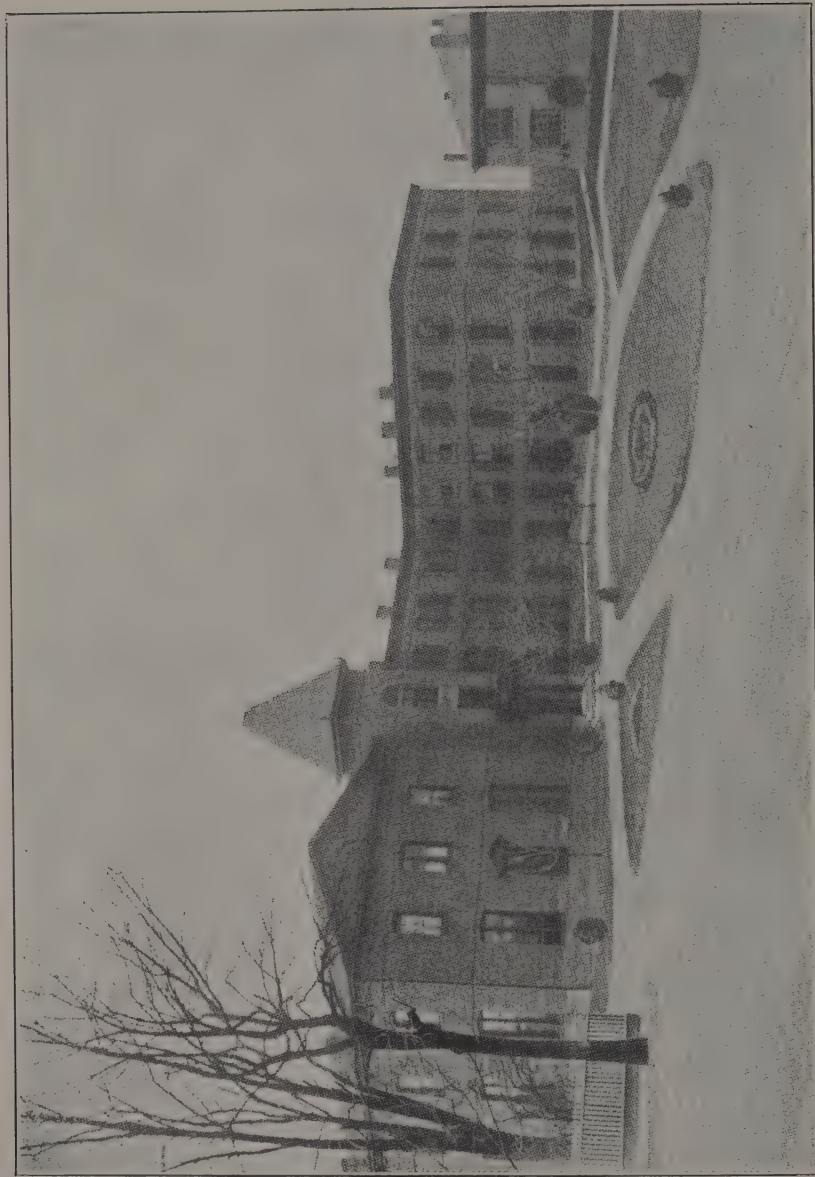
Fearing that any indication of a formal examination would frighten the prospective students into immediately returning to their homes, the principal examined them by merely asking each girl to write her name, age and place of residence on a slip of paper. From this knowledge of age and penmanship they were classified.

The first session enrolled 110 students, forty of whom lived in the building which Miss Bush described in such unglowing terms. There were three graduates, Annie Lydia Blanton, Lulu M. Duncan and Lulu O. Phillips. In the second (1886) graduating class was Fannie Bugg (sister-in-law of Clair Woodruff Bugg).

The response, from the first, demonstrated the eagerness with which Virginia parents took advantage of this newly offered opportunity to equip their daughters with the professional training that was to guarantee them needed financial stability through a teaching career—remunerative—but considered genteel.

Fifty years later, when the college was celebrating its golden anniversary, an article reminisced that "for fifty years this college has trained young southern women in what began as one of the few respectable occupations for women and is now dominated by them. It seems surprising that a southern state which took little stock in the education of females should have established the first college for the training of women teachers. Dr. William Henry Ruffner, who





**TRIMLY VICTORIAN** in appearance was the State Female Normal School a few years after the founding of Zeta Tau Alpha when the first landscaping and the removal of the fence gave the grounds a new look.

organized the public school system of the state in 1870, saw the establishment of this college as a solution of two things: improvement of the public schools by the training of teachers, and the advancement of enterprising young women."

By 1886, the school was running smoothly, and was "attracting deserved attention all over the state," for "the whole process of equipping Virginia lady teachers is so novel and interesting."

The very idea that "equipping Virginia lady teachers" was so novel and interesting in 1886 has never ceased to be more astonishing than novel to current generations following, who realize only vaguely that women were not always teachers, and were not always in everything.

From the first the school proved worthy of the confidence of its sponsors. As early as 1887, the United States Commissioner of Education commended its efforts. It was then divided into three departments—the normal or professional department; a well-taught primary and grammar school, and a model school in which members of the senior class could observe and teach under the criticism of an expert model school teacher. This early success was due to the energy and intelligence of Dr. Ruffner and Miss Bush.

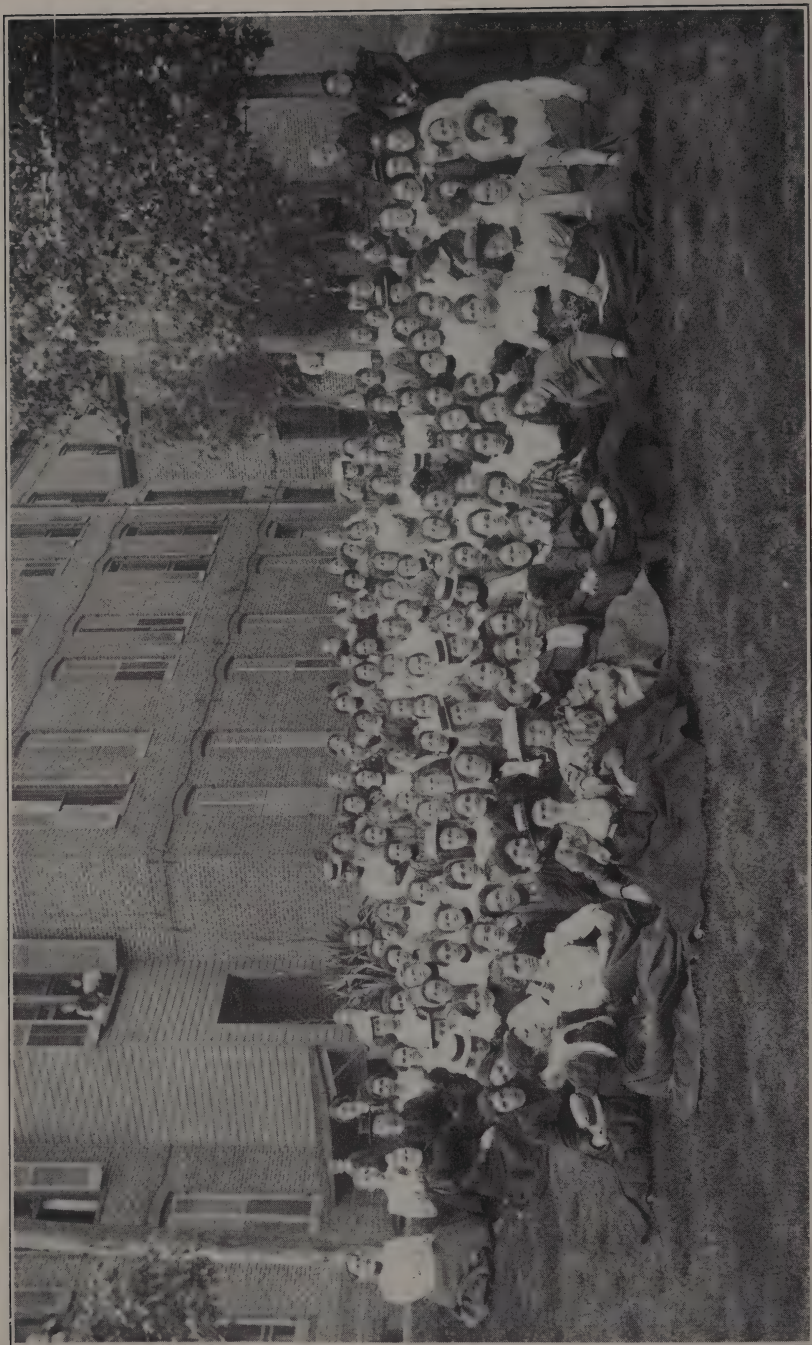
Things went well in fields other than the academic. The record is left that, "though housed in poorly heated dormitories, with little for spending money, the girls of long ago left evidence of exciting years." Mention was made of the fact that Hampden-Sydney College, even then considered one of the fine old colleges for men in the South, was only a bicycle-ride away. Seven miles, to be exact.

"The social life," a forerunner of the atmosphere into which Zeta Tau Alpha's Founders were to go, was wholesome and simple.

The students took readily to the idea that they were not boarding school misses over whom teachers must stand police guard, but young women in a professional school, expected to carry themselves properly without watching. The community was rather incredulous that there was no terrorizing process behind their generally discreet behavior. They took long, pleasant, daily walks; went on occasional riding parties; received their neighbors [the boys from Hampden-Sydney College] once a month, and made social calls and visits freely. Nothing was more valued by the school than the unremitting attention of its trustees, patrons and local friends . . . too much weight cannot be given to the people of Farmville themselves. . . .

In 1887, Dr. Ruffner resigned to resume his geological work. Dr. John A. Cunningham, a Presbyterian minister, succeeded him. The course of study was extended to cover three years, requiring two years of academic work and one year of strictly professional. The old model school became a practice school, and each senior was required to teach daily. New courses were instituted and faculty members added. Dr. Cunningham died while he was president.





A STUDENT GROUP IN 1899. Alice Welsh, Maud Jones (Horner), Grace Elcan (Garnett), Frances Smith, Ethel Coleman (Van Name), Alice Coleman, Mary Campbell Jones (Batte), and Helen Crafford are in the front row. Further back Bruce Houston (Davis), Della Lewis (Hundley), and Ruby Leigh (Orgain), are easily found.



In 1888, the legislature appropriated \$15,000 for additional buildings; in 1890 the annual appropriation was increased to \$12,000, while in 1894 it was again increased to \$15,000, with \$5,000 earmarked for additional buildings. The Peabody Fund also made contributions of sums varying from \$1,000 to \$1,500 a year. At the close of the 1897-1898 session, there were 352 students and 351 graduates.



A VIEW OF THE COLONNADE AND STUDENT BUILDING. The three columns at the extreme right belonged to the Auditorium which burned in 1949.

In 1899, a year after the founding of Zeta Tau Alpha, it was thought that the growth of the institution,

compared with other like institutions in the state . . . has not been rapid, but when we consider that our highest annual appropriation has been \$15,000 while the lowest to any other state institution has been \$20,000, and our highest special appropriation has been \$20,000 and the first appropriation for an outfit to the colored Normal School was \$100,000; when we consider also the extreme slowness of conservative Virginia to adopt new ideas, especially in women's education, we have reason to be proud of our advance and feel that our fifteen years of life represent far more than an aggregation of brick and mortar, but the steady growth of more liberal ideas of education in our state, with the promise of much better things hereafter.

In 1898, Dr. Robert Fraser became president. By the end of his term of office, and that of Dr. Cunningham, a middle west wing, new dining hall, science building and new brick training school had been added to the original building donated by the town. The course of instruction included three years of high school work and one year of professional training. There were thirteen

faculty members and fifty-eight students in the professional course. Dr. Fraser resigned and became the field agent for the General Education Fund.

Then, in 1902, Dr. Joseph L. Jarman took over the administrative reins which he held brilliantly for forty-four years. A building program gave the college



LOOKING EAST FROM THE ROTUNDA. Early Zeta Tau Alpha initiations were held in the corner room. (A 1928 picture.)

a series of artistic red brick buildings with beautiful white columns ideally in tune with the type of architecture traditionally associated with Virginia. During his presidency the east and west wings, middle east wing, the infirmary, laundry, power plant, annex, junior, senior and students' buildings were added. Beautiful Longwood estate, the birthplace of Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston, was also an outstanding acquisition. From just one year of professional training grew four-year courses in kindergarten work, home economics and commercial education. Enrollment increased to 800.



While the early success of the Farmville college was largely due to the efforts of Dr. Ruffner, the fruition of those plans came about in the time of Dr. Jarman. Like President Ruffner, Dr. Jarman was able to reconcile progressive tendencies in education with the Virginia tradition. He made the college popular at home and respected abroad.

The great need of trained teachers in Virginia made the school's expansion inevitable after it had proved its worth. In fact the idea that it exemplified



**LONGWOOD.** The famous Virginia estate which was the birthplace of Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston. It is now owned by Longwood College.

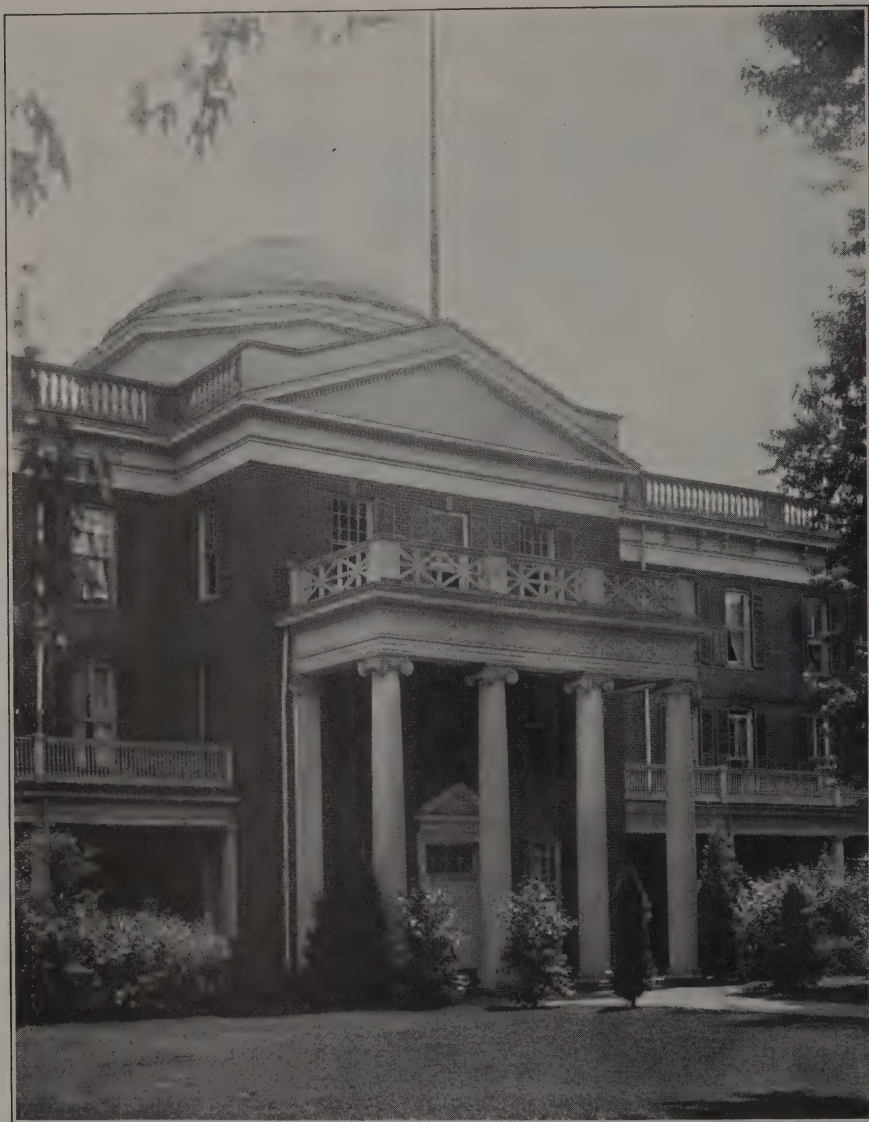
became so popular that between 1908 and 1910 the legislature established at Harrisonburg, Fredericksburg and East Radford, schools identical in purpose with the Farmville institution.

The growth of the idea that technical teacher-training should be supplemented by liberal instruction in the sciences and humanities, led the legislature in 1916 to authorize the four schools to give a four-year course leading to the degree of bachelor of science in education. Also in 1916, the name was changed to the State Normal School for Women, at Farmville. In 1920 the first B.S. degrees were conferred.

This movement reached its fulfillment in 1924 when "State Teachers College" was adopted as the name of each of the four institutions. Thereafter the ideal was to produce graduates who were not only trained in pedagogy, but also broadly educated according to the standards of liberal arts colleges.

Recognition of the quality and variety of work led the Virginia State Board of Education, in 1935, to authorize the college (and the three other state teachers' colleges) to grant the bachelor of arts degree.





STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE—THIRTY YEARS LATER. Stately columns and spacious buildings had wrought a transformation since 1898. Generations have left their imprint upon the threshold of this door to the Rotunda where Zeta Tau Alpha's fiftieth anniversary plaque was placed on October 15, 1948.

In 1946, upon the retirement of Dr. Jarman, Dr. Dabney S. Lancaster was appointed president of the college by the State Board of Education. Dr. Lancaster, formerly State Superintendent of Public Instruction in Virginia, brought to the office a wide and valuable experience in the educational world, providing a superlative perspective and background with respect to educational matters. Commenting on his achievements, experience and training, the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* declared him to be "a worthy successor of Dr. Jarman, than which there could be no higher praise."

Then another change of name, consistent with the times, was considered expedient. On March 30, 1949, Longwood College came into being.

"The changing of the name of our college throughout the years has seemed always to mark progress," wrote a college spokesman. "New names have been given . . . in keeping with changing times and new conditions. From the '1 female school' listed in an 1835 *Virginia Gazetteer*, to Farmville Female Academy, Farmville Female College, State Female Normal School, State Normal School for Women and State Teachers College, we have become Longwood College."

The change of name was proposed by Dr. Lancaster to the concurring State Board of Education, whose decision in the choice of a name was guided by suggestions from faculty, students, alumnæ and friends. The final choice was influenced by the fact that Longwood estate was already an integral part of the campus, and was one of the "better known Southside homes of historic importance." The estate was originally a colonial grant to the Johnston family from the British crown.

Instructional opportunities offered equal those of most southern liberal arts colleges of similar size. In addition to such traditional subjects as history, Latin, English, modern languages and the pure sciences, the wide variety of courses include swimming, drawing, interpretative dancing, music, home economics, and stenography. The department of education, naturally of special interest in a teachers' college, offered thirty-one courses in the year of Zeta Tau Alpha's return to the campus (1949).

Stressing that the emphasis on subject matter had not led to neglect of the primary aim of the institution—the training of teachers for the public schools of Virginia—the courses in educational methods, practice teaching in the training schools on or near the campus, "and the development of the graces and attitudes which increase the effectiveness of a teacher, receive special attention. . . . Perhaps Farmville adheres to a greater degree to its original purpose than any other of the so-called teacher training institutions of the United States. In many instances these institutions have gradually changed from normal schools into general colleges, with teacher training as only one of several major functions. One of the important policies of President Jarman's long administra-

tion was to prevent the development of this tendency. He felt that Virginia was already so richly endowed with liberal arts colleges of this type and that the ever-expanding public school system of Virginia would never, at least in our day, have a surplus of competent and well trained teachers." So ran the 1948 summation.

While social activities spring in part from the desire of young women for recreation and a good time, social graces as well as intellectual and pedagogical skill are necessary for teachers who aspire to a high quality of leadership. Longwood believes that "while carrying on warfare against ignorance, teachers should be able to battle against its twin, boorishness. They can inspire, with due modesty, it is hoped, an ever-widening circle of young Virginians to share in the graces and manners which are traditionally associated only with aristocratic circles. The more than 8,700 graduates are, inconspicuously and perhaps unconsciously, having a part in making the great body of the Virginia population into ladies and gentlemen in the best sense of those terms.

"Attention, without over-emphasis, is given to correct dress and to the development of the good manners and charm which is the proud tradition of the Virginia woman. The span of years in which the college has existed has been sufficient for the development of traditions which unconsciously foster among the students the attitude of ladies."

Longwood's recreational service to its students is outstanding, if not unique. Its spacious halls, its parlors, its two auditoriums, its large dining room, its gymnasium and pool, and the gardens and house of Longwood, its country estate, provide ample setting for the many dances, banquets, reunions, receptions, plays and other recreational activities of a formal and informal nature. Lovely Longwood estate also sees many weddings and wedding receptions, for which it provides an ideal setting.

Two disastrous fires have swept the college. The one in November, 1923, which destroyed the dining room, kitchen, pantries, storerooms, and dormitory accommodations for 108 students, removed many of the landmarks that had historical significance for Zeta Tau Alpha. The rooms of the Coleman sisters and other early members were burned, but many of the old classrooms in which meetings and initiations were held, remain.

Then on March 6, 1949, fire roared through the combination auditorium and dormitory, White House, and the white-columned three-story building which was built in 1905 became a blackened, tangled ruin.

Again demonstrating their pride and affection for the college, townspeople gave more than \$8,000 to the forty-six students who lost all of their possessions, while merchants allowed a thirty per cent discount on purchases made by the girls. "With backing such as this," said grateful Longwood, "the college should reach even greater heights in supplying the state with teachers."



The requirement of higher academic standards was one of Dr. Lancaster's first achievements. "Accompanying the renewed emphasis on better scholarship, a program of building and physical improvement was carried out." A beautiful new library was followed by a new science building. For the new auditorium and music building, with a seating capacity of 1,300, Zeta Tau Alpha contributed \$500 to the Jarman Memorial Organ Fund.

Through a colorful history of arduous struggle intermingled with numerous triumphs and steady progress, this "Mother of The Teachers' College" attained, and has maintained a serene graciousness—a poise that is perhaps a guarded heritage treasured and sustained by those who wisely realize its priceless value, and the spiritual, as well as the material, wealth it bestows upon its students.

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9

*The First Decade*

1898-1908

6





## Preface

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**Z**ETA TAU ALPHA's first decade carried her through two years of the fabulous Gay Nineties and across the threshold of the twentieth century which opened in serene majesty to the pomp and circumstance of the *Victorian Pax Britannica*. It saw the waning days of the gilded age of the Gay Nineties, thereafter to be referred to as "the good old days," and the close of the Victorian era of sixty-three years of a glorious reign that put its stamp on the times, the map and the customs of that long span of years. The eighties had produced Zeta's Founders; 1898 produced Zeta Tau Alpha. This decade of pioneering and getting started was a fruitful one carried on in a fruitful period in the country's history.

The United States emerged as a first class world power; the flag was carried across the seas to the Philippines, to Hawaii, to Puerto Rico, to the Isthmus of Panama and planted victoriously, if temporarily, on San Juan Hill in the Island of Cuba—stormed by Teddy Roosevelt and his "Rough Riders." "Remember the Maine" was a cry that stemmed from the Spanish-American War. Admiral Dewey was the nation's hero. "Trust-Buster" Theodore Roosevelt became President after the assassination of President McKinley. He started the Panama Canal, wielded the "Big Stick" and was an ideal spokesman for a flamboyant, strenuous era.

The end of a cycle saw the nation swing from panic to depression, with accompanying labor troubles and economic unrest, to great prosperity and the growth of capitalistic combinations. It was the era of trusts and financiers, starring J. P. Morgan. Immigrants were admitted at the rate of nearly a million a year to supply the demands of growing industrial production.

Madame Curie discovered radium; the suffragettes unfurled the battle flag for the emancipation of women; Marconi invented wireless receiving apparatus, first spanning the Atlantic in 1901; the conquest of both Poles was accomplished; 1902 saw the Klondike gold rush; silver was discovered in Nevada; the first horseless carriage was produced but the horse was still supreme and hadn't yielded the right of way; Carrie Nation was breaking bottles and saloon windows; Galveston was engulfed by a West Indian hurricane in 1900; the San Francisco earthquake was on April 18, 1906; the Wright brothers flew success-

fully; Edison had invented the talking machine and presented the first movies; De Forest developed radio; Texas had its first oil boom; the upright piano was crowding the organ into the wings.

People complained that "the pace of modern civilization is making us a nation of nervous wrecks"; Illinois women's clubs protested the indiscriminate use of the female face and figure in advertising that was discovering the big, new world, claiming that it "lowered the standards of womanhood, detracted from womanly dignity and corrupted the youth of the land." Sunday papers wailed that the bicycle "built for two" had put all their readers on the road and ruined their circulation, although Henry Ford, who produced his first automobile in 1894, envisioned more of them on the road, going faster. Labor Day became a legal holiday. Stenography was opening a new field for women, "a young lady having taken notes at a New York Senate session, 'without showing the least embarrassment.'" Conversation was still a vigorous art and letter writing flourished.

Youth in bloom was personified by the Gibson girl, created by Charles Dana Gibson. Every young girl tried to look as much like his drawings as nature would permit. The color of Alice Blue was born with the popularity of Alice Roosevelt (Princess Alice), President Roosevelt's daughter. Ankle-length cover-up bathing suits had flounces and long sleeves.

This wasp-waisted, elegant era of dress saw the lavish use of lace, appliqué, net, satin, beading and ribbons; flounces, trains, enormous hats heavily trimmed with birds, flowers and what not, anchored by long murderous-looking hatpins to heavy, elaborate coiffures contrived from long hair. At the turn of the century the country's 892 department stores were featuring the new and exciting fashion of shirtwaists, a vogue that swept the country along with sailor hats.

Among the songs they were singing were:

"Meet Me In St. Louis, Louis"; "Only a Bird in a Gilded Cage"; "In the Good Old Summer-time"; "Sweet Adeline"; "After the Ball"; "Darling Chloe"; "Love's Old Sweet Song"; "When You and I Were Young, Maggie"; "Good Night, Ladies"; "You're Not the Only Pebble on the Beach"; "Wait Till the Clouds Roll By"; "Juanita"; "My Mother Was a Lady"; "Kiss But Never Tell"; "Oh! Susanna"; "The Beautiful Blue Danube"; "Waltz Me Around Again, Willie."

Heard everywhere, John Philip Sousa's marches had taken the country by storm. The introduction of the lively two-step that evolved from the beat of his marches wrought a dancing revolution, elbowing into retirement older dances that had expressed lively spirits. During the late 1890's and early 1900's, the two-step and the waltz were substantially the whole of American dances. All dances were program dances then.

"Floradora" was the rage and the famous Floradora Sextette all married



millionaires. Music from "The Merry Widow" was on everybody's lips; Victor Herbert's tuneful light operas dominated the stage from 1900 on, especially "Naughty Marietta." Gilbert and Sullivan's popular "Pinafore," "Patience" and "The Mikado" had come over from England. De Koven's "O Promise Me" (from his opera, "Robin Hood"), became as familiar a part of wedding ceremonies as the wedding march. The names of Mary Garden and Geraldine Farrar blazed in lights on grand opera nights. Lillian Russell was the toast of the land at the century's turn and a few of the names in the theatre (to which the people were still devoted) were Maude Adams, George Arliss, Anna Held, and the four Cohans. The Ziegfeld Girl became an American institution.

Mark Twain's beloved American classic, "Huckleberry Finn" appeared; "Trilby" was the book of thousands; the amusing Mr. Dooley (Finley Peter Dunne) won the hearts of his countrymen, who also popularized "Janice Meredith," "Richard Carvel," "When Knighthood Was in Flower," "David Harum" and "Via Crucis." *Godey's Lady's Book* gave up the ghost; Cyrus H. K. Curtis took over *The Saturday Evening Post*. Richard Harding Davis was at the height of his popularity. Thomas Nelson Page in "Marse Chan" and Francis Hopkinson Smith in "Colonel Carter of Cartersville" were preserving characters of the Old South, who, as living figures were retreating before the noise and speed of the age—wrapping the faded skirts of their long frock coats about them, and taking with them their dogs and their horses, their gentle manners and their dignity. Bret Harte was well established; Owen Wister was portraying the true American cowboy, then beginning to pass away. Hamlin Garland was picturing pioneer life on the prairies and Mary E. Wilkins the New England spinster. Children loved "The Little Colonel" books.

Throughout these years more gay than gray, college women were sure that their sex was becoming "nobler and better," due to the influence of college education upon them. That was the terminology most used by the founding Zetas.



## Founding and Early Days

TO UNDERSTAND why white-columned Longwood College (the then State Female Normal School) became the birthplace of Zeta Tau Alpha, the factors underlying the Founders' choice of a school must be considered. The times dictated the choice, and the War Between the States influenced and dictated both. The 1890's reflected 1865.

General conditions and developments following the war brought drastic social and economic changes to the families of Virginia, and inevitably to the educational traditions and economic status of their daughters. Virginia had been one of the principal battlegrounds. The generation from which ZTA's Founders came faced a future that was a complete about-face from that of previous years, when women rarely thought of invading the male world of the professions. But, due to postwar depleted fortunes, *their* future included the need of a remunerative profession—preferably of a type not too strongly in conflict with the past and their background. What profession? *Was* there a choice then?

At the start of the last decade which was to close the nineteenth century, the subject of higher education for women was still highly debatable in Virginia. The word *female* still attached itself to many women's colleges and seminaries and was still a terminology of the day, but woman's world was enlarging. New professional fields were opening up. One of them was teaching. However, despite the broadened conditions and opportunities that had blossomed for women all over the country, Zeta Tau Alpha's Founders aver that teaching still was practically the only genteel occupation open to them at that time—as it looked in Virginia, at least. Thus it follows rather easily why the Founders made the selection they did, and why devoted, forward-looking parents decided to send their daughters to the still new and growing school in Farmville, whose president was already known for his almost single-handed stand for teacher training. So the Founders turned to the first and only normal school in the state as the logical place to prepare for the one profession they felt was open to them.

In 1892, the first ZTA name, that of Odelle Warren (Bonham), the first





A GROUP OF EARLY ALPHAS. In those days the photographer was not to be left out. Left to right are: Ruby Leigh (Orgain), Helen Crafford, Alice Coleman, H. H. Hunt, official photographer, Ethel Coleman (Van Name), Mary Campbell Jones (Batte), and Alice Welsh.

pledge, appeared on the enrollment lists, followed by the registration of Zeta's first president-to-be, Alice Maud Jones (Horner), in 1894. They, and the others of that period, followed the 1884 pattern when "each girl wrote her name, age and place of residence on a slip of paper," a procedure that constituted the only entrance requirement.

Thus the nine girls, who, in the autumn of 1898 completed the founding of Zeta Tau Alpha, represented this new departure from the old tradition that was Virginia. From fine, established land-holding families that had progressed through postwar economic hardships and the Reconstruction, these young girls who alternately seemed so mature, then so irrepressibly young, possessed striking qualities of character, stamina (for them a prerequisite which they called staying-power), poise and charm. Money? The idea! No one had any. At that time in the South, it was a disgrace for anyone to have money. It would have meant only one thing. It took time to recover from a devastating war and to recoup the losses suffered when Confederate money became valueless.

If one is prone to judge seriousness by age, these young girls present an interesting study. For they were very young. Most of them were around fifteen or sixteen years of age. Odelle Warren graduated and became a teacher before she was nineteen. Their letters leave no question as to the seriousness with which they regarded their college careers. They never lost sight of it, and the definite purpose for which they were there dominated everything. They had gaiety. They loved fun. They were in and out of pranks. They were popular and they were almost self-sufficient in ways of amusement.

Money, of which they had none, meant nothing to them. With pride and rich family relationships, they were abundantly endowed. Sometimes the thread of their writings is almost too mature, and one senses the aftermath of the war on parents who taught little girls true values and eternal verities—and who loved them very, very much, and wanted to set their thinking straight about such values, for guidance along life's path. The correspondence of this period is characterized by a rich charm in writing which often displays keen judgment far beyond the years of the youthful writers. Or so it seems in the light of later days and schools of thought. Cultural background continually shone through. Always there was a quiet dignity.

Granted that their goal was an education and the desired teacher-training, there still remained hours not filled with classes and school routine. In those hours Zeta Tau Alpha came into being.

### Prelude

Although Zeta Tau Alpha could, but does not, claim that founding date because the Founders did not, by 1897 a little band had formed what later be-

came the pre-Zeta group. It was first referred to in 1897 by Maud Jones as "our little crowd,"\* but although it was a definite group, they never gave it a name. Usually a name is the first thing selected. Organization details trail. But that order was not followed by the pioneer builders of Zeta Tau Alpha. They organized first; the name came later. And not until a certain stage had been reached, did they claim a founding date. The one finally claimed may be said to be a year later than the first meeting date.

Actually, several such groups of friends, formed with fervency by the girls at the Normal, existed. Invariably, those who are congenial companions find each other and automatically form their circles. It has always been so, regardless of whether a Greek or non-Greek name is adopted. From many such little groups all over the country has sprung the vast American fraternity system. An expression and pattern of human nature, loyalty and seeking, it was here vividly expressed. But while Maud Jones's circle of friends was considering how best they "could unite into a helpful, congenial band," another similar group of friends *decided*, and announced the formation of a new organization—with a Greek name.

Thus, the fraternity idea entered Farmville. By 1897, Kappa Delta had announced its formation, and the pre-Zeta group was holding meetings. There were others, for Sigma Sigma Sigma followed soon, in 1898. The Farmville Four was coming into being. Although Zeta's Founders had no cognizance of the fact, the precedent for Greek-letter organizations for women already had been set by other girls in other colleges, and at the turn of the century there was an expanding interest in Greek-letter organizations everywhere.

They observed this new movement with an intuitive interest that suggested to them that here might be the answer to the question expressed by Maud Jones when she wrote:

For a whole year before our sorority was established, the need of such an organization was strongly felt. There were six or seven of us who used to frequently meet together and talk over and try to devise some way by which we could unite into a helpful and congenial band. We knew that we sadly needed *something*, but we had no idea just how that something was to be found. The beginning of the session 1898-1899 found our little crowd back again at the Normal and just as eager as before, if not more so, to find something to satisfy our desires.

Her preserved 1901 reunion address gives a picture of those pre-1898 days, and of the first meeting, held in 1897, to effect a formal organization.

For a "year or more," during 1897, many important "consultations" were held by a group then numbering about "a dozen." Then "one night in the

\* The word "crowd" was one of Maud Jones's favorite expressions, reflecting the slang of the day.



left-hand corner of Professional Hall," where Maud Jones lived, a meeting was held. "That same dozen were present," she related, "and *such* a time as we had. This was the first time we had gotten together (for a formal meeting), and so, of course, it was a very important meeting."

She pictured them "all sitting around the room, each waiting for someone to begin the proceedings," all of them hesitant, sitting in half-stifled awe of the all-important moment which had arrived and was confronting them. They had trouble getting started. Then "someone—remembering I suppose, some business meeting she had attended—proposed that we elect a chairman for the meeting. In a few moments we had elected all our officers, president, vice-president, secretary, etc."

The ice was broken. The wheels were set in motion. From then on procedure went forward with smoothness and dispatch. Delighted, the girls began "congratulating themselves that they were progressing so rapidly and satisfactorily." But an incident occurred which Maud considered of sufficient importance to be recorded. Other Founders remembered it vividly fifty years later. One of the twelve, apparently not sufficiently imbued with the mission of the meeting, displayed an attitude that jarred the finer sensibilities and incurred the displeasure of the others. "Indignation," was the word Maud Jones used. They had long looked forward to such a meeting. It was of deep significance and importance to them, and they meant it with all their hearts. Thus anyone exhibiting a lack of realization of what the meeting meant and stood for, aroused instant disapproval.

"That was enough for us," Maud declared with conviction. "I shall not tell you who the offender was . . . but when our Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority was organized, she was not invited to join it." Mundane behavior was not consistent with the lofty plateau of thought on which the organizers were proceeding. Perhaps their standards were exceptionally high, for later she was asked to join another sorority.

However, although this first meeting was held long before October, 1898, and officers were actually elected, the early Zetas did not consider it official or final enough to be given consideration as an initial organization date to be claimed—although it would have been wholly consistent with later-day Greek group practices to have done so.

In the meantime, that much had been accomplished. They considered it a good start, but it took a jolt to bring about the final consummation of a formal organization a little later when the group, by graduation and selection, had narrowed down to the tried-and-true nine who became the Founders.

The jolt came rather promptly. Time for cogitation suddenly ran out. Brown-eyed Alice Coleman, a favorite with everyone, was asked to join one of the new Greek-letter groups. It would separate the little band of friends if she

accepted. While the devotion and closeness of the Colemans to each other made that course highly improbable, the girls realized definitely that they must now consolidate their position, and the development served as an incentive which hastened the formal founding of Zeta Tau Alpha. Thus around Alice Coleman was woven an incident which led directly to Zeta's founding. And the time to act had come.

Beyond perceiving from the other two groups, so recently formed, that the perpetuation of friendships through the fraternity idea was an ideal medium of expression, the Founders were entirely uninfluenced in the formation of Zeta Tau Alpha, so far as Greek-letter groups for women in other parts of the country were concerned. Through brothers and friends they had a knowledge of the system, but the existence of women's groups, either in the North or the South, was not known to them. Their aim was, first and foremost, to band together, in a union providing lasting qualities, girls who were congenial companions and close friends, perpetuating those friendships beyond college days. The details they left to the future. The first move was to organize.



ALICE COLEMAN in 1898

This they did. The preamble of the first minute book of regular fraternity meetings begun in 1899 states clearly that Zeta Tau Alpha was organized on October 15, 1898, at the State Female Normal School. This minute book set forth definitely for the first time the colors, the flower and the motto, the latter being written out in Greek, and

then translated. By mistake, for many years, in fact until the first (1928) *History of Zeta Tau Alpha* made a general correction, the fraternity used the wrong founding date. No one knew how the wrong October date came about, when all the official record books of Alpha chapter were so definite. A statement corroborating the founding date also appeared in the 1899 *Normal Light*.

The Founders were Alice Maud Jones (Horner), Frances Yancey Smith, Alice Bland Coleman, Ethel Lee Coleman (Van Name), Ruby Bland Leigh (Orgain), Helen Crafford, Della Lewis (Hundley), Mary Campbell Jones (Batte) and Alice Welsh. All of Virginia, of course.

A badge, motto and even a name were yet to be selected. When they held

their first secret meetings, many of them nocturnal and candle-lighted, they were intent, impressed and not-a-little-scared young girls who knew what they wanted, but who had discovered that the founding of a fraternity was not only a thrilling but a challenging experience replete with details that took them into an unknown world. They decided, characteristically, to look into certain aspects thoroughly before making lasting decisions. The matter of a Greek name, for instance. And other matters of Greek lore.

Fortunately, they had at hand able and willing counselors. Wisely, at this juncture, they turned for information and assistance to two brothers who were not only familiar with the intricate workings of the fraternity system, but who were also brilliant scholars. Thus Plummer Jones, Kappa Alpha (S) and Phi Beta Kappa of the College of William and Mary, brother of Maud Jones Horner; and Giles Mebane Smith, Phi Theta Psi and Phi Beta Kappa, also of William and Mary, brother of Frances Smith, entered the picture as consultant-collaborators.

Conservatism and thoroughness continued to characterize the Founders' moves. It was almost as if they had a predilection that they were building for a future more extensive than they could possibly have envisioned at that time. Since they realized that it would take time to explore Greek lore and find the proper symbols to express the ideals outlined to the brother assistants, they had no intention of allowing undue haste to characterize the choosing of a name. Thus it was that, while these investigations and preparations were going on, the new, unnamed group went quietly about its plans. And until formal announcement could be made with all due ceremony suitable to the occasion, they did not want any hint of their plans to leak out. Secrecy was the watchword. Explaining this, Alice Coleman said:

We persistently avoided publicity and I well recall the clandestine meetings we first held. Several of us had rooms in Nursery Hall, so dubbed because of the youthfulness of the majority of us. We were considered "perfect kids" by the grown-ups who lived in Cunningham Hall.

To have meetings in the rooms of the members was impractical. To hold them in the Coleman sisters' room was considered too apparent. So night after night, after lights were out, one by one they stole away to the bathroom, where, in huddled, muffled council, they continued their planning.

It was not comfortable. Alice Coleman remembered that

there was scarcely room to squeeze in, much less turn around in, and besides a lack of space, there was a far greater difficulty to contend with. We were literally scared to death all the time for fear somebody's keen eye would discern the tiny flickering light which came from our one tallow candle and arouse the household with the cry of "ghosts in the bathroom." Yes, we had to steal up the stairs one by one, looking like convicts instead of girls who were striving with all their might and main to establish a strong and loyal sisterhood that was



Whereas, In the Book of all  
Books it has been handed  
down to us as coming  
from the teachings of Jesus  
His sons to ever, that the  
greatest of all things is love -  
or, is just that given as the  
reward for God himself? -  
Therefore for the purpose of  
bracketing this sentiment the  
have banded ourselves to -  
gather, and with the help  
of Him who never refuses  
strength, to be to each other  
what we most need in time  
of sorrow, as well as joy,  
throughout your lives.

the Zeta Tau Alpha Society was  
organized in the State Female  
Normal School, October 15, 1898.  
The charter members are,

Alice Maud Jones  
Alice Blaine Coleman  
Other See Program  
Prin. Emma Higgins  
Margie May Crawford  
Frances Yancey Smith  
Mary Carlsell Jones  
Della Elizabeth Davis  
Alice Welsh

Our fourth Year were  
Three new members initiated,  
namely, Abelle Austin Warren  
Grace Betts-Blair  
Miss Foster Armstrong

Color, - Turquoise Blue and

Steel Gray

Flower, - White-Violet

Photo, -

INTST 72 2/2 194

See the notebook (things)

"PLUMMER JONES did not know how he came to have this document in his possession, but in sending it he wrote: 'I consider this little sheet of paper (Maud's) a real historic document. . . . This shows exactly and settles definitely the date of the founding of ZTA and gives the names of the original members and the three who joined the next March.'"—November-December, 1948 *Themis*.

destined to make its impression on the thousands who were to follow its loyal precepts and principles.

Such was the road of those who preferred to lay their initial plans with no fanfare or publicity.

At that time the Normal consisted of a Main Building, the Science Hall and the Practice School. Situated in the eastern wing of the Main Building, brightened by the first rays of the morning sun, was the Coleman room in which the actual founding of Zeta Tau Alpha was first discussed. Three large windows

### *Constitution*

#### *Preamble*

Whereas, in the Book of all books it has been handed down to us as coming from the teachings of Him who cannot err, that the greatest of all things is love - for is not that given as the synonym for God Himself? - therefore for the purpose of promoting this sentiment, we have banded ourselves together, and with the help of Him who never refuses strength, to be to each other what we most need in time of sorrow as well as joy throughout our lives.

#### *Art. I Name*

Sec. 1 This Society shall be called -  
Zeta Tau Alpha

**PREAMBLE TO THE FIRST CONSTITUTION**—The first attempt made by the members themselves. Found in the 1899 minute book in which it was copied by Odelle Warren (Bonham) from the original written by Maud Jones, until Plummer Jones found the original document in 1948 it was credited to Odelle Warren.



opened over the sloping eastern campus and there was an open fireplace. Again Alice Coleman painted the picture:

Dormitories occupied the second and third floors. Doubtless the different hallways were known to the girls who lived on them by some special name. I can only remember Professional Hall, where Maud Jones roomed and was dubbed the "Guardian Angel"; Nursery Hall, and the one on the third floor that received at some time the opprobrious name of "Tackey Alley." Nursery Hall, later destroyed by fire, was so named because of the youth and inexperience of the freshmen who lived there.

## *Art. II. Membership.*

*Sec. 1. This Society shall be composed of regular & honorary members.*

*Sec. 2. No person shall become a regular member of this Society under 16 years of age.*

*Sec. 3. Honorary members shall consist of such persons as the Society shall deem worthy of complimentary membership.*

*Sec. 4. Regular members shall be confined to fellow students.*

## *Art. III. Officers.*

*Sec. 1. The officers of the Society shall be - President & Secretary. These shall be elected at the first meeting of each school session.*

*Sec. 2. No member shall be elected to the same office 2 consecutive terms.*

**SECOND PAGE OF THE FIRST CONSTITUTION.** Since this was probably written very early in 1899, late winter or early spring, and unquestionably before summer, the lines drawn through it are accounted for by the fact that it was discarded when the Normal opened in the fall of 1899 and Maud Jones returned with a new and complete constitution and ritual.

? ? ?

My - dearest "sisters,"  
You just can not  
imagine how much I  
appreciate the present you  
gave me. I can not thank  
you for it, my vocabulary  
should have to be extended  
to infinity. It is beautiful.  
You could not have given  
me anything I would rather  
have had.

Yours devoted "sister"  
Ethel Coleman ???

A "THANK YOU" NOTE. Ethel Coleman ???, writes  
to her "sisters."

Ruby's room, with Della's a few doors beyond, was on the hall that joined ours at right angles. Cammie and Alice Welsh roomed on Professional Hall, I think, and Helen was at least for a time on Nursery Hall. Ethel's and my room was at the end of this hall, beyond a stairway. These stairs, which were not for students' use, led down into the store-rooms and kitchen. It was down this "no-man's passage" that we raided the larders for butter and milk for the oyster stews. Ten o'clock meant lights out.

Our room was large and comfortable, with three big windows making it light and sunny. Even with two double beds there was plenty of space for the trunks, the big table, two bureaus, two or three chairs (depending on whether or not these had been borrowed) and supplementing the fireplace, an open Franklin stove, a solace and a joy.

Four girls were supposed to occupy this room, but I cannot remember that we ever had but three. After the first term a single bed replaced one of the doubles, making more floor space available. Naturally it became the meeting place for many occasions. Here we gathered to brew the oyster stews, to make hot chocolate, toast rolls, and give spreads from boxes of food arrived from home. Here we often sat in secret councils.

School girls traveled light in the 1890's, so small attempt was made to beautify the rooms by ornamentation. Perhaps one dresser contained a photograph or two and essential toiletries. We did not indulge in a variety of creams, powders or rouge. I rather think we scarcely, if at all, gave them a second thought. We certainly did not use them. Maybe there would be a pin tray, a trinket box, even a vase. Modern flower containers often remind me of the motley collection we found to hold many lovely blossoms. Books and papers were everywhere and pens and pencils never in the same place. There were few, if any, fluffy ruffled curtains, or elaborate decoration. The rooms were simple, easy-going places for the purpose designed.

Then a gift arrived that was to take its place in history.

Strawberries, sent to Cammie Jones by one of her admirers, provided the inspiration for the first purely social gathering. They called it a "strawberry feast." "I don't know," they wrote, "what there was in the occasion or the delicious berries to bolster up our courage, but then and there we decided, without a dissenting vote, to become recognized. Many were the plans we discussed, but all the while our name hung wildly in the balance." But with the decision to become recognized as one of the groups at the Normal, there was still no change in their determination to select their name with meticulous care and appropriate meaning.

Then another incident, again of Coleman origin, ushered in an era which preceded the days of Zeta Tau Alpha—namely, the period in which the group was known as the ??? (The Three Question Marks) and one whose story was virtually unknown to the fraternity at large until the publication of the first volume of the earlier *History of Zeta Tau Alpha*.

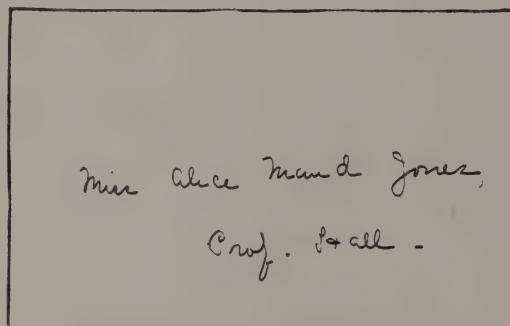
### ???—The Three Question Marks

The story revolves around an experience common to every college girl who ever received a box from home, even though opportunity may never before have presented itself in the form of a tub of choice oysters, "the then-famous York River selects," sent by the father of the Coleman girls. This gift decided



the form that the anticipated announcement party would take. It would be an oyster stew. Invitations would be sent to Kappa Delta and Sigma Sigma Sigma as soon as a temporary name could be decided upon.

Despite efforts, the organization of a group is not long kept secret, especially in a woman's college of not great size. That knowledge of the movement on foot was more than surmised was proved by the very incident that supplied the temporary name. A member of another group met some of our girls while out walking. The story goes that she "superciliously raised her brows and, forming a question mark with her fingers, inquired, 'Who are you?' Simultaneously, the group replied with an inspired, 'Yes, Who? Who? Who?' and rushed to find the other girls," for they knew that the three question marks (???) would answer just then for a signature.



your sister in ??? wishes to express her many, many thanks for the much appreciated and serviceable gift which was handed her this morning. She also appreciates the "best wishes" from

her sisters and wants them to think of her not merely as a "stone" but a girl who loves them all dearly.

Yours in ???,  
Ruby Blaud Leigh.

S. G. N. S.,

December fourth, 1898.

RUBY LEIGH'S NOTE TO THE ??? Written in appreciation of a birthday gift.

Consequently, the announcement party invitations read:

The ??? will be delighted to receive the Kappa Delta and Sigma Sigma Sigma fraternities in the end room on Nursery Hall at 8:30 P.M.

"The acceptances came promptly, addressed simply 'For the ???s'."

The oyster-stew announcement party, held December 23, 1898, was highly successful. Nelle Preston, Kappa Delta, made an "address" replete with memorable statements, and "the visiting girls were most gracious in their congratulations and best wishes that we might soon be known by our right name."

This party, at which the new group first acted as hostesses, constituted recognition and marked the beginning of the short-lived period of the ???.

During that time, and before the adoption of the Greek name, three pledges were added. Odelle Warren (Bonham), Grace Elcan (Garnett) and Ellen Baxter Armstrong, who became members on March 3, 1899, joined at so early a date that they became a part of the early picture.

Odelle Warren, a close friend of the organizers, had graduated from the Normal in February, 1898, but was teaching only twenty miles from Farmville. Being slightly older than some of them, and feeling keenly the responsibility of her advanced age of nineteen, she spoke and thought of them as her "children." But the solemnity of those nineteen years did not keep her from being agog with curiosity when an invitation urged her to spend a weekend with them. She sensed an air of mystery. It was "important," they wrote.

The unusualness of the occasion was duly impressed upon the astonished Odelle when she was met at the station and "escorted to the Normal in a hired hack." That was the height of affluence. Only dignitaries received such attention. Odelle was both overwhelmed and bewildered.

She never forgot that ride. "Nothing could have impressed me more," she said, "for Normalites had no money to spend on rides. Nine-tenths of the girls had \$13.50 a month for board and room, with exactly \$1.50 left for spending money, for nearly all of us received \$15 checks. Remember, that was years ago, when times were very different, particularly for southern girls, whose families had never recovered from the war. It is difficult to believe the stories I tell of the poverty of the South in 1898. We spent twenty-five cents for a Christmas present for a well-beloved schoolmate, and let it go at that.

"We had no thought of taxis—there were none—or even of hacks, except on momentous occasions. Silk stockings? They were for brides, and only then for a full-dress wedding."

Thus the first rushing was done with a hack which, plying between the Normal and the railroad station, was 1898's equivalent to later-day taxicabs. It was successful. The highly impressed Odelle accepted the invitation of the secret club and from that day she became an ardently interested member. The



THE "MYSTIFYING" PICTURE OF 1899 IN THE NORMAL LIGHT



fact that she was no longer in college was no deterrent to eligibility for "those were other days and we had other ways of doing things." Thereafter she made frequent trips to Farmville until a teaching position took her farther away.

"A beautiful girl, young in experience but mature in mind and soul, nothing frivolous attracted her," was the description that fitted Ellen Armstrong. She was greatly sought after by the other groups. When she chose the ???s, the delighted members paraded their prize up and down the corridor. Triumph was uninhibited in those days. It was all right if one could make one's rivals green with envy.

Grace Elcan's contribution to the fraternity will be covered later.

### The First Official Picture

About this time the *Normal Light* of 1899 asked for a group picture. With their Greek name not definitely selected, someone saw in this request the irresistible opportunity to have a picture taken that would "completely mystify the Normal." That would be fun, the still-very-young girls concluded.

So they had the picture taken, and they succeeded so well that they not only mystified the Normal, but the entire fraternity, as well, for years to come. After its appearance in the 1899 *Normal Light* it was forgotten, then later discovered. The picture was important because it was the group's first public appearance pictorially and its first official introduction as a functioning organization qualifying for inclusion in the annual publication. Until the first Founders' reunion in 1924, it remained unexplainable because no translation along the lines of fraternity symbolism could account for it. It was accepted as bewildering, but authentic.

Conjecture eventually concluded that it depicted some discarded early-day ceremony, for the participants were costumed in attire that could belong to nothing but an extinct ritualistic era. But far from being authentic or representative in any degree of the group at that time, the picture was merely a hoax, a prank perpetrated on the Normal, that sent the heretofore serious members to the photographer, there to bedeck themselves in quaint costumes, stiff collars and floral wreaths.

They had fun and they accomplished their purpose of intensifying the mystery surrounding them, but the net result was that their first official picture in the college annual was entirely different from the type of pictures usually found there. In the impulse of the moment the long-time importance of the picture did not enter their minds. Girls, especially if most of them are still in their teens, do not think in terms of becoming figures in history.

While the picture always provoked irrepressible smiles and a twinkle in their eyes, the Founders grew to regard it with misgivings. It could be so misleading in the impression given. It had endless possibilities of misconstruction. It could indicate a lack of dignity or seriousness of purpose that was not true.



ODELLE WARREN (BONHAM) in 1899, the year in which she was pledged, after the successful hack rushing.

However, to every Zeta Tau Alpha the fun of those days is part and parcel of the treasured store of early incidents which merely serve to forge closer the feeling of kinship with the Founders, who once were just girls themselves. Irrepressible youth finds expression in the college girls of every age. It merely takes different forms, according to the times. The observation is inescapable, though, that this particular bit of irrepressibility was carried out with such convincing dignity that the participants ever after had the continuing task of explaining away an apparently serious and meaningful picture.

The first explanation was given when Volume I of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha* was published. Each girl was merely costumed to represent the pet name by which she was known in the little circle. Odelle Warren Bonham supplied the translation as follows:

Alice Coleman, whose brown eyes and irresistible manner are so often mentioned, was the Flirt. She is holding a handkerchief between her hands in an old time flirting signal. Della Lewis, the Judge, gazes at her in stern rebuke, while Maud Jones, the Angel, is lovingly pointing to higher aims. Fannie Smith, the Preacher, holds the Bible in her hand. Never would she have done it lightly, for even in those days she lived the life that could only come from an intimate acquaintance with the Book. Helen Crafford, the Teacher, was setting a "copy" on the slate. Ethel Coleman and Ruby Leigh were Lawyers. Alice Welsh, the Poet, was holding a quill pen and was madly writing verse. Cammie Jones, the Light, held a burning candle. Grace Elcan was our Child of Nature; her hair was hanging and she was covered with wild flowers. Grace was one of the most perfectly natural people I ever knew—sweet to the core. I was Grandma. I wore a black silk dress with a soft old lace shawl and brooch. My hair was parted in the middle and drawn down over my ears in a day when girls showed their ears. Ellen was at my knee, wearing a high-waisted dress and playing with a toy monkey. She was the Baby.

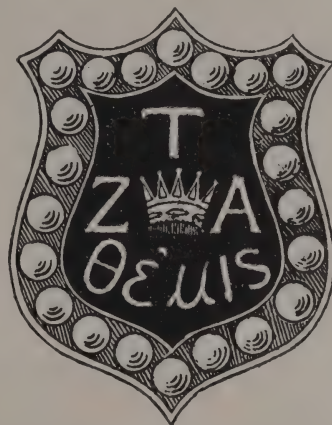
Thus the enigma of the mystifying picture was solved and the key supplied to decipher it.

Minutes of the business meetings of this period were never found. It is doubtful if any were kept.

### Zeta Tau Alpha

In the early spring of 1899 (before April), information was received which led to the selection of the name, Zeta Tau Alpha, the adoption of the motto, the patron goddess Themis, the graceful shield-shaped pin which was first made in the large size, and other necessities found in the fraternity category. From that moment on, unremitting work toward perfection of organization on a forward-looking basis characterized all activity.

The name, motto and selection of Themis as the patron goddess may be attributed to counsel and information received from Mebane Smith, who also suggested the badge. Colors—turquoise blue and steel gray—and a flower, the white violet, which grew in profusion in Virginia, were chosen. The first constitution, adopted and used during the period of the Three Question Marks (and up to the summer of 1899), was written by Maud Jones.



FROM A VERY EARLY PRINT OF THE PIN. (Found in Ruby Leigh's Memory Book, 1899.)



Yells, which were most ardently used in those days, were considered a necessity. An organization without a yell was not an organization. Zeta Tau Alpha's first yell was:

Hido Kido  
Siscum razzle dalpha  
Here we are  
Here we are  
Zeta Tau Alpha.

Maud Jones wrote the original fraternity song:

On the Appomattox in the town of Farmville  
There's a Normal that is very, very fine;  
In the Normal there's a dozen merry maidens  
Who have taken Z T Alpha for their sign.

Chorus

Yes, the strongest and the sweetest ties have bound us  
And our hearts so large shall ever beat as one,  
And though years roll by and we are separated  
We'll remember Z T Alpha and its fun.

The second song, set to the tune of "Aunt Dinah's Quilting Party," was written by Grace Elcan (Garnett), Emma Magruder (Cook) and Helen Crafford:

In the sky a bright star glitters,  
And its light shall ever shine,  
For this star is our Zeta Tau Alpha  
And we bow before her shrine.

To each heart a strong cord binds us,  
Binds us close with truth and light,  
For "Themis" we would ever cherish  
And from her we draw our light.

In each heart a love ne'er failing,  
Draws us to the "Blue and Gray,"  
And may we be forever loyal,  
Till time shall fade away.

Far into the distant future  
ZTA shall shed her light,  
Clear and searching as the golden sunbeams  
And pure as violets white.

Chorus

We shall ever loyal be,  
We shall ever loyal be,  
To our dear beloved Zeta Tau Alpha  
We shall ever loyal be.

Upon the selection of a Greek name in 1899, Maud Jones was again chosen president, after having served in that capacity during the group's pre-Greek days. That the acknowledged leader of the Founders became the first president Zeta Tau Alpha ever had, was both a logical and beautiful development in the life of the fraternity at that stage, for it reflected both recognition and appreciation of her leadership; a fact not always acknowledged at the right time. This harmony was undoubtedly a good omen.

In describing the Founders, a Zeta pledge once aptly spoke of them as "a group of southern gentlewomen." That vividly described Maud Jones, who was of the school of leaders whose strength lay in gentleness and kindness, who won through love and consideration, and who, perhaps, inspired more loyalty than falls to the lot of purported leaders with more driving methods. Strong she was, but gentle; and quiet in the sense that implied strength. Immovable as to principle and integrity, in the midst of differing opinions she could remain above the conflict and give a just decision.

During the summer of 1899, while recuperating from an illness at his home in New Store, Virginia, Plummer Jones prepared a new, and more adequate, constitution and ritual for his sister's sorority. It included "the initiation ceremony, the oath, and the opening and closing of meetings," to quote the Reverend Dr. Jones himself, "as well as a very complete constitution."

The Historical Collection possesses the original Alpha chapter minute book which contains the final draft of this first official constitution and by-laws, in Maud Jones's handwriting, but richly rewarding was a 1948 search through Plummer Jones's "old college trunk," when he discovered documents antedating the minute book. He found the original rough draft of that first constitution and ritual which he wrote on request. Of this, and his part in the start of Zeta Tau Alpha, Dr. Jones wrote in the Golden Anniversary issue of *Themis*:



**PLUMMER F. JONES** in 1898, when he wrote the constitution and ritual of Zeta Tau Alpha.

# Alpha Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority.

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Organized in the State Female Normal School, Farmville, Virginia, October 15th, 1898.

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Colors: Turquoise Blue and Steel.

Flower: White Violet.

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## Members.

FRANCES YANCEY SMITH,  
RUBY BLAND LEIGH,

DELLA ELIZABETH LEWIS,  
ETHEL LEE COLEMAN,

MARY CAMPBELL JONES,

HELEN MAY CRAFTFORD.

ELLEN BAXTER ARMSTRONG,

ODELLE AUSTIN WARREN; (Feb., '98)

ALICE WELSH,

GRACE ESTELLE ELKAN,

ALICE BLAND COLEMAN,

ALICE MAUD JONES.

ZETA TAU ALPHA'S FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE. Facsimile of the page taken from the 1899 *Normal Light* in which also appeared the "Mystifying" picture. This page is another authority for establishing the date of founding as October 15, 1898.



Here in the very heart of Virginia the Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity was established over fifty years ago. There were quite a number of us who had part in this establishment. From all that I could gather at the time, and from what my memory brings back to me, my sister, Alice Maud Jones, was the actual originator of the plan to organize the sorority, as it was at first called, although I know she had with her from the very beginning the intelligent, enthusiastic and persistent backing of the eight other fine young Virginia girls whose names, with hers, now are so well known as the actual Founders of this historic sisterhood.

Maud's old home, and mine, was located only fifteen miles away from Farmville, the location of the college, and here, from time to time, Maud brought these girls out to remain over the weekend or, in summer, to spend longer periods of time, and here, and at the school itself, I must have met every one of the Founders and talked with them of our roseate plans.

I had graduated from the ancient College of William and Mary in 1896 and was, as usual, spending the summer vacation at the old home when I first heard of these girls' plan to establish a sorority. Since I spent each summer at home, I cannot recall just which summer it was that brought attention to the subject. It may have been even as far back as the summer of 1897 that Maud told me of her plans. I am sure that during the summer of 1898 all of us must have been quite active in talking over the situation and building our air castles. I had been a very active member of the Kappa Alpha Order when in college. For a year I had been historian of Alpha Zeta chapter, then secretary, and during the last two years at college, the G.M. or I., as the leader of the chapter is called. I was also a constant contributor to the *Kappa Alpha Journal* and had made Kappa Alpha contacts far and wide. It was no doubt for this reason that Maud so urgently appealed to me to help in drawing up a constitution and ritual for their proposed organization.

I have before me as I now write, eighteen pages of faded, old-fashioned blue-lined pencil pad paper which contains in my handwriting, interlined here and there, the very first twenty-three articles of the original constitution of Zeta Tau Alpha.

In drawing up the original tentative constitution for the fraternity I am sure I did not crib anything from the Kappa Alpha ritual. However, I know that my intimate knowledge of the Kappa Alpha ritual helped me considerably.

That first ritual and form of ceremony for several years comprised the whole secret part of Zeta Tau Alpha.

Plummer Jones's eighteen sheets of "faded, old-fashioned blue-lined pencil pad paper" became priceless historical documents. Dark with age was the tablet



FRANCES YANCEY SMITH when she was president of Alpha chapter.

paper over half a century old, but most of the pencil writing was clear or at least decipherable. Occasionally he crossed out or erased a few words or a phrase, but for the most part, this astoundingly sound and well-thought-out document seems to have been written with more fluency than revision, and the usual brilliance which characterized everything Plummer Jones wrote. While the Jones family was a brilliant one, it still astonishes one that anything so complete and perfectly done could possibly be a first draft. There were no pages to be redone and redone.

Much that remained basic in Zeta Tau Alpha is found in that first constitution. Perhaps the wording is slightly different. He wrote:

#### CONSTITUTION OF .....\* SORORITY.

Article I. This Sorority shall be called the ..... Sorority, from the initial letters of the Greek motto upon which the organization is builded.

Article II. The object of the Sorority shall be to intensify friendship, to foster the spirit of love in the hearts of its members, to promote happiness among those who take its vows, and in every possible manner to create such sentiments, to perform such acts and to mould such opinions as would best conduce to the building up of a nobler and purer womanhood in the world.

Since 1898, every Zeta has known those words, only a little changed, by heart. Glancing through further, Article IV states that

1) Chapters of the ..... Sorority shall be established only in those woman's colleges and schools which have a standard of scholarship and a social standing at least equal to that which exists at the S.F.N.S., in Farmville, Virginia.

2) In particularizing sections (1) of Article IV no chapter of ..... sorority shall be established at any professional (law, medical or similar) school, nor at any school whose total number of students does not exceed one hundred. . .

Article V enlarged on expansion and organization procedures, as follows:

The sorority, as an organization and as individuals, shall make every possible effort to plant chapters in every desirable woman's school; and after as many as five chapters shall have been established, the chief officer of the parent chapter shall call a general meeting at which representatives from the five established chapters shall be present, for the purpose of revising this present constitution and adopting laws, and appointing general officers for the governing of the sorority as a whole.

In Article VI it was set forth that "all candidates for membership in the .....

\* Left blank because this was written before the Greek name was chosen.

sorority must be at least fifteen years of age, and must be either a student or a teacher in a school where a chapter of the sorority is established."

Article VIII sets forth the fact that "the officers governing each chapter shall be six in number; namely, (1) Grand Priestess, (2) Vice-Priestess, (3) Chapter Secretary, (4) Purser, (5) Historian, (6) Censor."

In outlining the duties of the Grand Priestess in Article IX the requirements were specific:

Inasmuch as the office of Grand Priestess is the most important one in the chapter, extreme care must always be taken in selecting the one best qualified to fulfill the duties which devolve upon her. The G.P. should have executive ability and a bright mind, and should have been at school, under ordinary circumstances, at least two years and *must have been a member* of the sorority (except in the case of new chapters) no less than one year. In short, the G.P. should be the acknowledged leader of the chapter in all those things that go to make up true womanhood.

Considering the chapter secretary: "This office should be held by a member . . . who not only writes a good hand, but who can lucidly and happily express herself in the English language." The historian was another officer who "should be able to write a good hand, and should have some literary ability."

Since the office of censor apparently was short-lived, some of the duties of this office are interesting. She was "to keep perfect order during the time of the chapter meeting," and "report to the Grand Priestess all manifest acts of disorder and to keep a record of the fines which the G.P. imposes upon members guilty of such offenses." Laughing in a meeting constituted undignified conduct and Alpha minutes recorded a fine for the misdemeanor.

Chapter elections "shall be held twice a year—in the last meeting in January and the last meeting in June, and shall be decided by ballot, the G.P. counting the votes. In this election no candidates shall be put up, but each member must vote for the one whom she thinks best suited for the position." Chapter meetings were to be held once every two weeks. And "every member must, without exception, be present at every meeting held, or pay the fine which the chapter imposes upon those willfully absent. Excuses on account of sickness must be signed by the indisposed member if she be in condition to do so. . . . Regular parliamentary rules are to be observed in chapter meetings, and perfect order and decorum are to be insisted upon by the officers. Members must, before expressing themselves on any question, rise and address the chair. . . ."

The order for "the regular exercises" included: (1) Calling the roll; (2) Reading minutes of previous meeting; (3) Proposal of new names; (4) Initiation of new members; (5) Regular literary exercises (a. Recitation on some appropriate theme; b. Essay on some subject relative to the sorority; c. Debates, speeches,





ESTABLISHED 1898.

## Alpha Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity.

FLOWER: White Violet.

COLORS: Turquoise Blue and Steel Gray.

IN URBE.

NETTIE DUNNINGTON MORTON.

IN COLLEGIO.

HELEN MAY CRAFFORD  
JESSIE EVERS WHITMORE  
MARY EMMA MAGRUDER  
MARY CAMPBELL JONES  
MARY POWER FARTHING  
ALICE MAUD JONES

JOSEPHINE NARCISSA GOODWIN  
GRACE ESTELLE ELCAN  
ANNA BRUCE HOUSTON  
FRANCES YANCEY SMITH  
MARY ELIZABETH ADAMS  
EDITH MERRIWEATHER LAWRENCE

THE SECOND FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT. Reproduction of the page in the 1900 *Virginian*, the renamed yearbook of the Normal. It will be noted that the word *Fraternity* is here used for the first time.

original poems, literary discussions, etc.); (6) Transaction of business left over from previous meeting; (7) New business; (8) Purser's report; (9) Historian's report, (10) Censor's report. All meetings were opened with religious exercises, and ended with a prayer.

"In proposing names for membership, as provided for in section 3 of Article XVII, the member must rise and give the name of the person whom she would have voted upon, and shall be allowed three minutes, if desired, to show reason why the name should be considered. This proposal must then be seconded by two other members of the chapter. The name thus proposed shall then be taken and laid upon the table until the next regular meeting of the chapter, when it shall be voted upon by ballot. It shall be the duty of all the members to assure themselves during these two weeks of the fitness or unfitness of the proposed name for membership in the sorority."

Voting was by A for *admitted* and R for *refusal*. If admitted, "a committee appointed by the G.P. invited the person to become a member." But there was more to it, namely, "when a name has been rejected by one or more adverse votes, said name can be brought up again as often as there is a reasonable chance of its being favorably voted upon, but said name shall not be proposed again until two months from the time of its previous rejection, without the *unanimous* voice of the members in the matter. Those members who persist in voting down a proposed name for selfish or personal reasons shall be subject to suspension at the hands of the other members of the chapter. For such offenses as that mentioned . . . and for other offenses of a grave nature, members of the chapter may be suspended by the unanimous vote of the remaining members for a period varying from one to eight months, according to the nature of the offense."

Names were subjected to rigid scrutiny.

Initiation, as it was to be conducted, was covered in Article XXV. "Initiations shall be held in the midst of chapter meetings—when section 4 of Article XVIII is reached, and, after initiation, new members shall be present at the rest of the regular program. It is suggested that as little business as possible be set apart for the night of initiation in order that the exercises may not be unduly prolonged.

"Modification of the above rules may be made in cases of the organizing of new chapters and in other cases when the chapter deems a variation from the usual order necessary.

"Upon nights when an initiation is to take place the person, or all the persons, who are to be initiated, are very secretly conducted by the G.P., from their rooms to a room immediately adjoining, and opening into, the chapter-room. All the members of the chapter then assemble in the chapter-room where the usual chapter exercises are presented until Clause Four is reached. Then, all the

preliminary arrangements having been made, the following program is observed. . . .”

Article XXIV was unfinished on the yellowed sheet. It was indicated that the initiation ceremony would follow at this point. On the eighteenth page of the faded manuscript, Plummer Jones had written in pencil:

“Article XXIV—Initiation

To The Z.T.A.’s:

Do you want a comparatively elaborate initiatory program or a simple one? How long would you have it last? I mean how many minutes (or hours)? How many rooms have you at your disposal? What rooms? Do any of you know anything about sewing? Anything about designing costumes? The initiation will require some costumes of a simple nature. White muslin with trimmings of the sorority colors or something similar. The whole thing need not cost more than a dollar or two. Are any of you willing to help me prepare this initiation? If so, let me hear from you. I shall be glad to receive any assistance. In fact, I must have it.

What do any, or all, of you think of extending the Sorority all over the South? It can be done, and I will help you do it if you desire it. Under those circumstances it will mean something to belong to Ζῆτα Ταῦ Αλφα.

Let me hear from some, or all, of you in regard to the matter—and at once.

With best regards for all,

Yours fraternally,

Plummer F. Jones, K.A.

“At the bottom of this sheet, written in a feminine hand (just which of the girls wrote it I do not know) was this:

Notice!

Please let us have this as soon as possible’.”

Noticeable is the fact that the girls made no reply about their ability to sew. Recalling that “at an early age” the Coleman sisters were proficient in the management of a household and in handling horses, boats and firearms, but that in 1928 they still recorded their “acquaintance with a needle and finely-sewn seam as being very slight,” one’s curiosity is piqued by this obvious omission.

Someone must have known something about sewing, for soon after this, ritualistic regalia was adopted. Strict form was observed thereafter.

“The entire manuscript was returned to me,” Dr. Jones wrote in 1948, “addressed, apparently, by Grace Elcan, although of this I am not sure. Nor could I find the sheets which later must have contained the initiatory proceedings. I feel sure I must have assisted, at least, in drawing up this first initiation plan.



"Entirely unexpectedly I also found in the envelope which contained the manuscript of the old constitution (just how it got there and why, I do not know), a faded sheet of note paper upon the first page of which my sister, Maud, had written:

Whereas, in the Book of all Books, it has been handed down to us as coming from the teachings of Him who cannot err, that the greatest of all things is love—for is not that given as the synonym for God himself?—therefore for the purpose of promoting this sentiment we have banded ourselves together, and with the help of Him who never refuses strength, to be to each other what we most need in time of sorrow, as well as joy, throughout our lives.

"And on the inside of this folded sheet, third page, Maud also wrote, in her characteristic way:

The Zeta Tau Alpha sorority was organized in the State Female Normal School, October 15, 1898.

The charter members are: Alice Maud Jones, Alice Bland Coleman, Ethel Lee Coleman, Ruby Bland Leigh, Helen May Crafford, Frances Yancey Smith, Mary Campbell Jones, Della Elizabeth Lewis, Alice Welsh.

On March third there were three members initiated, namely, Odelle Austin Warren, Grace Estelle Elcan, Ellen Baxter Armstrong.

"On the fourth, or last, page of the sheet Maud had written:

Colors: Turquoise blue and steel gray.

Flower: White Violet.

Motto: Ζῆτετ Τὰ Αἰετα—Seek the noblest (things)."

Affirming Mebane Smith's contribution, Dr. Jones wrote in 1948:

While I was assisting in writing the constitution and ritual, Giles Mebane Smith, brother of Miss Fannie Smith, of Charlotte Court House, Virginia, was designing the badge, and finding a name for the sorority by digging into the Greek language. It is my belief that Mebane himself selected the motto whose initials in Greek gave the name to the organization. Mebane Smith was a brilliant scholar and a boy of the highest possible type. Difficult subjects like Greek, German and mathematics meant nothing to him. He invariably made about the highest marks in all his classes, and was not just a fine student; he was a man of great ability and wonderful personality. He and I, together, edited the William and Mary College *Monthly*, along with the great writer, James Branch Cabell, also a Kappa Alpha. Everything that Smith wrote was excellent. He developed his ability as a speaker to such an extent that when just seventeen years of age he was sent to Chicago by the College to represent them in some national enterprise. His death from typhoid fever at the University of Virginia, in 1900, was a calamity to the state.

Alpha's first officers were Alice Maud Jones (Horner), president, and Alice Bland Coleman, secretary. The record of this election is undated, but the other members listed included the Founders and the first three initiates, none of whom apparently had any official duties.

### Ideals and Objectives

To a friend at another college, Maud Jones wrote at this time:

It is the object of this fraternity to cultivate a higher ideal of womanhood and to encourage all those womanly traits existent in our kind, to give a firmer foundation to those friendships founded on college companionship, to promote sympathy in both sorrows and pleasures, to furnish aid and sisterly advice in our school life.

Higher ideals of womanhood? How is such a broad term to be interpreted? The Founders themselves, in 1924, gave the interpretation for the record. It was always meant to be broad and comprehensive. They envisioned standing for the highest in whatever phase of life an individual found herself, be it in the home, the school or office, certainly in civic and political affairs. All of them came from homes with a background of knowledge and understanding of national affairs. All felt a duty to their communities and country. That their interests covered a wide range is attested by a list of promises required of early members.

After a pledge to high moral standards, a promise to suppress and avoid private quarrels, to be cautious in behavior, courteous to one's sisters, and faithful to the chapter interests, an arresting trend is reached in the discovery of statements dealing with suppression of plots against the United States, and a required pledge of submission to the decisions of the law and the Constitution of the United States. In 1898 they considered that the country nurturing the formation of this new organization should have their utmost loyalty. They also believed in being active citizens, ever watchful of the country's welfare and the preservation of all its benefits and privileges.

Strikingly noticeable was the fact that each girl was an individual. Each followed a different line of development. Fannie Smith, always deeply religious, had definite interests along that line. The nine probably presented the most striking example of the manner in which differing personalities could work, play and live together in complete harmony, with each preserving her own individuality, freedom and happiness. There certainly was no regimentation in this free group of girls, each of whom did her own thinking, had her own convictions and adhered to them.

Volume I of the first two volumes of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha* told the fraternity that "very decidedly they did not represent one type. Then, as now, a well-balanced group was considered the ultimate goal." Time cannot change or improve on that statement. It is one of the eternal verities of Zeta Tau Alpha. Following the golden anniversary convention which seven of the Founders attended, one observant member recorded the impact this made upon her. "It has always been said," she wrote, "that there is no Zeta type, and now I believe

there never has been. For even in such a small group as the Founders, personalities ranged all the way from dignified, competent Frances Yancey Smith, to lively, joyous Alice Bland Coleman, who the girls say is still a 'glamour girl.' Fifty years out of college had not changed the easily recognized diversification of the personnel of the foundation group or the complete harmony of the whole.

**SIX EARLY ZETAS.** Alice Welsh (at top), Helen Craford, Ethel Coleman (Van Name), Ruby Leigh (Orgain), Mary Campbell Jones (Batte), Alice Coleman.



Depending upon one's viewpoints and standards, tests for membership in those days might now appear stringent. To survive and prosper, a new group had to include only those of real staying-power. Elements of inharmony had to be guarded against. Selection, too, was made in the light of the Founders' environment and training. Above all, they wanted genuineness. Prospective members were considered thoroughly. Families were looked up if stories seemed to war-





ZETAS IN THE CLASS OF JUNE, 1899. Front row, left to right: Ethel Coleman (Van Name), Ellen Armstrong and Alice Welsh. Second row: Alice Coleman (first girl), Della Lewis (Hundley) (third girl), with Ruby Leigh (Orgain) next to her.

rant checking. Usually, there was no need of this for the district which the Normal served was compact; kinships and friendships went back years. Almost everyone knew everyone else, or could easily find out. However, a few humorous instances are recorded of newcomers whose impressive tales of importance proved mythical. There have always been four-flushers. A girl, in 1898, could succeed on her own. Misrepresentation was given swift and accurate evaluation. Scholarship was a prime requirement.

Not money, but family, was important. It was felt that a girl of acceptable family (which meant one of good standards and respectability) would inevitably possess, by virtue of training and environment, those qualities they most wanted. She would be one of them. The financial status of a girl or her family never occurred to them. If it had, the possession of money probably would have been eyed with distrust unless the explanation was very good. "Money," declared Alice Coleman, "never occurred to us, for no one in our part of the country had any—to us it was no true test of gentility or desirability."

Is it difficult to comprehend the Founders', and indeed Virginia's, attitude toward money at that period? Consider that a whole section of the United States, remaining loyal to what it considered the highest principles and guarantee of freedom and states rights, threw in its whole faith, loyalty, lives and fortunes with the Confederacy. Converting their funds into Confederate money and bonds, if they had any money left, they ended up with worthless currency and securities. Converting draperies into dresses was not fiction, but fact. Early Alphas tell of returned Confederate officers wearing home-made suits of calico—the best that could be managed in Reconstruction days. Perhaps those in the professions recovered faster than those with huge plantations and few or no workers left. So, who among the daughters of families that had stood loyally by their cause would be expected to have much money? Thus character and gentility entered predominately into the selection picture.

While these daughters of Virginia did pride themselves on family, it was not exactly in the manner usually deduced. For one thing, they all had it. Their forebears had lived long on Virginia soil, had helped develop the state, and had fought for it, for all had ancestors in the Revolutionary War. Family became then, a tightly-knit unit that was intimately, pridefully theirs. Lineage was the history of their own family. Along with pride, they found inspiration in that, as well as incentive and encouragement in molding ideals and modes of living. The historian's book of Alpha chapter contains more than one detailed family history. Early colonial figures of importance are included, as is a court favorite or two.

Small wonder then, when the foes of Greek organizations misleadingly promote the fallacy that membership in such groups is based upon or influenced by money, that Zeta's Founders remember back and wonder.



ZETA TAU ALPHA, 1900. Starting at the lower left: Mary Farthing, Mary Campbell Jones (Batte), Maud Jones (Horner), Nettie Morton (Scott), Jessie Whitmore (Booker), Helen Crafford, Emma Magruder (Cook), Josephine Goodwin Parsons, Bruce Houston (Davis), Grace Elcan (Garnett), Mary Adams (Eyster), Frances Yancey Smith, Edith Lawrence (Landstreet).



### Early Extension Plans

Plans for expansion and nationalization came early, almost coincident with the founding itself. "The policy of this fraternity is to grow steadily in the United States and elsewhere," Maud Jones wrote, "but the policy is conservatism." Canada was the country foremost in mind in the words "and elsewhere."

In an illuminating convention speech she explained, "We were not content to be only a club. Each of us belonged to several already, and they did not satisfy our longings. We wished to be something stronger and greater, to reach out far and to have influence wherever we went. . . ." Then she gave full credit to the brother-collaborators who were responsible, actually, for the setting up of the organization along organization lines and who translated into form the thoughts, aspirations and desires of the nine girls. "I doubt if we would have been any more than a club, for of course we knew nothing of fraternity life, if it had not been for two young men who gave us great assistance."

From 1899 until the first convention in 1903, extension was carried on through the efforts of the members themselves, with the assistance of fraternity friends. Alpha members, of course, took a prominent part.

The first move in this direction came simultaneously with the opening of school in the autumn of 1899. The first extension correspondence originated with Plummer Jones early in 1899, when he hoped to interest a young lady at Randolph-Macon Woman's College, in Zeta Tau Alpha. Letters written by him in November set forth suggestions and included a list of desirable Virginia seminaries and women's colleges. He knew young ladies in all of them, he added—not unexpectedly, for he had previously suggested that the sorority extend all over the South, and had offered his services and assistance. And since coeducation was virtually nonexistent in Virginia, the young ladies whom the young men knew, were in colleges of their own.

This first correspondence with Randolph-Macon College seemed to indicate that a favorable decision had been reached, but no chapter became a reality then. What happened? The question was posed for many years. It was answered in 1928 when the young lady to whom Plummer Jones had written was located. She remembered the incident clearly. Feeling that it was the most ethical procedure, she and her group became a part of the fraternity which she mentioned in her 1899 letter as having approached her first. These 1899 letters, contributed by Frances Y. Smith to whom Plummer Jones forwarded them years ago, give the Historical Collection interesting evidence of the first move toward expansion.



ALPHA CHAPTER IN 1901. Top row: Susie Warner (Maddox); Bessie Palmer (Saunders); Gertrude Campbell (Thraves); Frances Yancey Smith. Second row: Mary Frayser (McGehee); Mary Campbell Jones (Batte). Third (bottom) row: Mary Farthing; Mattie Henderson (Kelly); Pearl Hundley (Ware).

### Meetings in 1899

Although the first recorded meeting of this important year dates from October, 1899, obviously from the following quoted record, it was not the first held that year. Since meetings were held every other week, the assumption seems safe that October 7 was the date of this meeting. Fortunately preserved is the record of the "acceptance" of a list of names which included that of Anna Bruce Houston (Davis), who was to carve a name for herself in Zeta Tau Alpha's hall of fame. Here, also, is found the first use of the title *grand priestess*, an early-day designation entirely in harmony with Greek mythology, which gradually disappeared without definite mention of any discussion about it.

At the last regular meeting of the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority held — day of October eighteen hundred and ninety-nine: Roll being called, all members present and minutes of the last meeting read. Alice Maud Jones was elected chairman to preside at this meeting. The meeting was then called to order by the chairman and officers were elected for the year as follows: grand priestess, Alice Maud Jones; vice-priestess, Mary Campbell Jones; purser, Frances Yancey Smith; historian, Grace Estelle Elcan; censor, Frances Smith; and chapter secretary, Helen May Crafford. After which the vote was taken on the names mentioned at previous meetings. Five of the persons were accepted. They were as follows: Anna Bruce Houston, Mary Elizabeth Adams, Edith Emma Merriweather Lawrence, Mary Emma Magruder, Mary Power Farthing. The committee on reception was next appointed to arrange for the banquet of the Zeta Tau Alpha to be held on the twenty-first day of October, 1899. A motion for adjournment was made and seconded, after which the meeting closed.

Names presented at one meeting, were voted upon at later meetings, after full and serious consideration.

In the meantime the close friendships of the sorority meant a great deal to the Lexington, Virginia, belle, who at first found being away at school not as alluring as being at home.

"My first two or three months at the Normal," Bruce Houston wrote, "were spent getting over home-sickness, adjusting myself to the new school, and making friends. At this time I met and knew the Founders of Zeta Tau Alpha."

That initiation, which, at that period, had not advanced beyond the stage of the ritual, was held within two weeks after the date of "asking," is shown by the minutes of the next meeting:

The last meeting of the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority was held in the library at the State Female Normal School on the twenty-first day of October, 1899. The roll was called, all members present and minutes of last meeting read. The business of the chapter was transacted after which the persons voted on and accepted at the previous meeting were initiated into the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority. After this part of the program was carried out all adjourned to the reading-room and partook of a grand supper prepared by the members on



the reception committee. At a very late hour a motion for adjournment was made and seconded.



ANNA BRUCE HOUSTON in 1899

The care taken and the various factors considered in the pledging of a girl are made clear in this excerpt from the following meeting, at which only two names out of six were accepted:

The Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority held its regular meeting November 4, 1899, in the history class room of the State Female Normal School. The grand priestess presided over the meeting. . . . The business of the chapter was transacted. First, the names before proposed and laid upon the table were voted upon but of the six proposed only two were accepted, they being Jessie Whitmore and Josephine Goodwin. . . . The purser reported no money in the treasury, all having been paid out for the sorority banquet.

Bruce Houston and Jessie Whitmore were close friends from Lexington. From the foregoing rigid screening that took place, there was apparent advantage in having a strong sponsor-friend in the group.

First mention of the charter which they seemed to have had in mind as soon as the Greek name was decided upon, came in the undated minutes of the next meeting. Comparative computations set it for February 4, 1900:

Owing to the great amount of work in school, examinations and so forth, the sorority has not met at regular times. Several call meetings have been held at which time some of the important work of the sorority was done. Through Judge Watkins the sorority tried to obtain a charter from the Legislature, but owing to the lateness of the date, it could not be brought before the House of Delegates. Our brother in Zeta Tau Alpha, Plummer Jones, who has done so much for us, helped us out of so many difficulties, comes to our rescue and though we are discouraged, gives us every hope that next year we shall be successful.

Continued active interest in extension is attested in the following, which also included a note on the first robes for officers:

The last regular sorority meeting was held March 10, 1900, in the State Normal School. The regular program was carried out. A committee composed of Grace Elcan, Cammie Jones, and Emma Magruder, was appointed to select robes for the officers of the sorority. Owing to the small amount of money in the treasury, that being \$5.13, it was decided that only the (vice) priestess, and grand priestess, were to be gotten now. A letter from Miss \_\_\_\_\_ at Knoxville, Tennessee, had been received and read before the sorority. She gave encour-

aging news to the chapter. Although nothing definite could be learned we have brilliant hopes of establishing a chapter there in the near future, if not this year, certainly by next.

The group had definite standards of decorum. A penalty for what they considered undignified conduct was recorded at this meeting:

December 15, 1900. A short meeting was held in the room of the president, Miss Frances Smith . . . we discussed whether or not the members who laughed at the previous meeting should be fined. The question was decided in the affirmative and the members fined.

Later members were fined a dollar for laughing in meetings. That was a very heavy fine for those times.

Maud Jones graduated in 1900, but she retained her contact with, and interest in, the chapter, returning to Farmville in June, 1901, for the reunion as one of the principal speakers on the program.

Assigned letters, written by college members to alumnæ, helped to retain the interest of those who had graduated, and to keep them close to the mother chapter.

Late in 1901, Alpha's interest in a possible chapter at the Woman's College of Richmond appeared in the records:

November 9, 1901. . . . The prospect of establishing a Beta chapter at the Woman's College in Richmond was discussed and Claudia Perkins was commissioned to write to her friend there about the matter. . . .

November 23, 1901. . . . The chief object of this meeting was to discuss the letter from Mary Saunders, Claudia's friend at the Woman's College. Mary . . . said that the faculty had recently forbidden establishment of sororities or any secret organization. She said that twelve girls had formed a kind of club but that their meetings were liable at any time to interruption by a teacher. We decided that it would be unwise for us to take any further steps with regard to the matter under the existing circumstances.



PEARL HUNDLEY  
(WARE)

### The Charter Story

Meanwhile, although not recorded in the chapter minutes, behind the scenes another history-making episode was unfolding. Surmounting previous disappointments, vivacious Grace Elcan was working with zeal and determination to secure the charter they felt was necessary before the youthful organization could progress. Zeta's debt of gratitude to her is best expressed in the words of Maud Jones Horner, who wrote: "I feel that each Zeta Tau Alpha owes a deep debt of gratitude to Grace Elcan of Alpha, for being instrumental in

getting our fraternity chartered by the legislature of Virginia. . . . This was, of course, a great stride toward higher things and without it we would have been unable to go forward. . . . Of course, we could grant no charters until this time."



SENATOR FRANK C. MOON. From a photograph taken when he was in the Virginia Senate.

Grace Elcan's determination in the face of discouraging obstacles is a story in itself. The various judges approached at first refused, in one way or another, to have anything to do with the project. First of all, to those Virginia legislators (who probably regarded the request with an indulgent attitude toward a woman's whim), the chartering of a "sorority" was unheard of. Next, it was not worth "fooling" with, and last of all, the politicians themselves would gain nothing by it.

So, when all else failed, Grace Elcan decided to speak to them in their own language, in terms they understood best. "I turned politician myself," she recounted, "and induced one of Father's close friends, Congressman Hal Flood, to use his influence in our behalf." Mr. Flood brought Frank Moon, then a young man with senatorial ambitions, to confer with her, and the two prom-

ised that if she would stage a big barbecue in the country, the first bill they presented to the legislature would be hers if Mr. Moon was elected. The barbecue was arranged, and Mr. Moon made his speech. He was elected. True to his promise, the bill for incorporation was duly drawn up and passed on March 15, 1902, with Senator Moon as its sponsor.

Thus through the influence and energetic good services of Grace Elcan, of Buckingham County, the Honorable Frank Moon piloted a bill through a special session of the legislature which made Zeta Tau Alpha the first woman's fraternity to be chartered in the state of Virginia, and the only one ever to be granted a charter by a special act of the legislature. That created a stir. It is also interesting to note that after 1902 the power of the General Assembly to grant special charters ceased. Under later law all charters of private corporations were issued through the State Corporation Commission.



## The Charter

Chap. 234—An act to incorporate the Zeta Alpha Sorority of the State Female Normal School, of Farmville, Virginia.

Approved, March 15, 1902.

1. Be it enacted by the general assembly of Virginia, that Grace Elcan, Frances Yancey Smith, Susie Ware Warner, Pearl Garnett Hundley, and Mary Olivia Frayser, and such other persons as are now or may hereafter be associated with them, are hereby declared to be a body politic and corporate by the name, style and the title of the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority and by the name shall be known in law, and shall have perpetual succession and a common seal, which may be a scroll or impression with the right to change the same at pleasure and shall have power to sue and to be sued, contract and be contracted with and have all the rights and privileges of a corporation and be subject to all the rules, regulations and restrictions and do all acts and enjoy all other powers incident to similar corporations in general under and subject to the laws of the Commonwealth.

2. The object of said association shall be to intensify friendship, to promote happiness among its members and in every way to create such sentiments, to perform such deeds and to mould such opinions as will conduce to the building up of a nobler and purer womanhood in the world.

3. That the members of said corporation who are or may be entitled to vote at an election of officers shall have full authority and power to make and adopt a constitution and by-laws and to determine who shall be eligible to become members thereof and to prescribe rules and regulations for the government of said association and promotion of its interests, for the admission and expulsion of members, and, from time to time to alter and amend the same: provided that the same be not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the United States and of the State of Virginia.

4. That the officers of said association shall consist of a president and such others as may be deemed necessary, and they shall be elected in such manner and at such times as the constitution or by-laws may prescribe.

5. That said association being for benevolent purposes, there shall be no capital stock and no charter tax shall be required of it, that said association may take and acquire by purchase, gift, devise, bequest or otherwise and dispose of the same in such manner as may seem most advantageous to the association or duly authorized committee thereof: Provided that it shall not at any time hold real estate of greater value than ten thousand dollars.

6. The principal office and place of business of said association shall be at Farmville, Virginia, with authority to establish subordinate association at any other female colleges and schools in this state.

7. This act shall be in force from its passage.



GRACE ELCAN (GARNETT)

The act of incorporation not only gave encouragement for future growth and success, but to the elated girls at Farmville, it added a new gravity and dignity to their organization.

The kindly Virginia press was highly intrigued. It came forth with the following story which has been well known in Zeta Tau Alpha since the publication of the first volume of *The History* and which forms a part of the Historical Collection:

## YOUNG LADIES' SECRET SOCIETY

### CAN NOW SUE AND BE SUED

#### Enterprising Students of the State Female Normal Get a Unique Charter—List of Fair Incorporators, Woman's College Chapter

Probably the most unique bill passed at this session of the General Assembly has for its object making a girls' college secret society a body politic and corporate. This is certainly the first time such a thing was ever known in Virginia. It is an interesting departure, and the history of the society is full of unique features from the beginning.

The name of the society is Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority of the State Female Normal School, at Farmville. All college-bred men and women will be particularly interested in the incorporation of the girls' secret society. No men's fraternity of the State is incorporated, as far as known, though every college and university in the State has a number of such organizations that are prominent factors in all the student activities.

Richmond people will feel a still deeper concern in this departure when it is known that a chapter of the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority has just been organized in the Woman's College of this city with a dozen of the brightest students of that institution for its members. It is said also that the constitution of the sorority was written by a gentleman of this city.

The bill was introduced by Mr. Moon. It was signed by the Governor yesterday and thus became a law.

The first lines read as follows: "Be it en-

acted by the General Assembly of Virginia, that Grace Elcan, Frances Yancey Smith, Susie Ware Warner, Pearl Garnett Hundley and Mary Olivia Frayser, and such other persons as are now or may hereafter be associated with them, are hereby declared to be a body politic and corporate, etc."

The object of the sorority is "to intensify friendship, to promote happiness among its members, and in every way to create such sentiments, to perform such deeds and to mould such opinions as will conduce to the building up of a nobler and purer womanhood in the world."

The association is for benevolent purposes, and, therefore, does not have any capital stock and does not have to pay any charter tax. But it can acquire and hold property, personal and real, the latter not to exceed the value of \$10,000. The principal office is to be at Farmville and the sorority can establish chapters in any other female college or school in the United States.

The sorority was organized at the State Female Normal School about four years ago. It has had for its leading members some of the brightest and most promising students of that institution since that time. It has always been one of the desires of the society to have a charter and to be something in the

eyes of the laws of the State. But it was not until yesterday that their wish was consummated.

The young ladies of the Woman's College who are members are much elated over the

dignity their sorority has assumed.

Recently a chapter was organized in a female college of Frederick, Md., and with almost unprecedented rapidity the sorority is spreading over the entire country.

To be noted are the 1902 chapter members whose names were on the bill: Grace Elcan, Frances Yancey Smith, Susie Ware Warner, Pearl Garnett Hundley and Mary Olivia Frayser.

But the girls had their staunch champion who, fortunately, was gifted with a versatile pen, and who had no idea of letting a rival newspaper's story stand as the sole journalistic record of a newsworthy event. So the "gentleman of this city," mentioned in connection with the constitution, answered, extolling his sister's sorority in the finest phraseology of the day. A 1902 reportorial staff member of the then *Richmond Dispatch*, Plummer Jones wrote the delightful and widely reprinted story that charmed the girls. Speaking from the standpoint of a Virginian, he said in the article which is here reproduced from the original:



SUSIE WARE WARNER (MADDOX). One of the members whose name appears on the state charter.

## FIRST IN VIRGINIA

### A Woman's Incorporated Greek-Letter Fraternity

#### NOW IT IS BRANCHING OUT

*Idea Originating at the State Female Normal, at Farmville,  
Extending to Institutions in Other States—  
Charter Provisions*

It has been something more than 125 years since the first college Greek-letter fraternity was established; about seventy-five years since the second followed, and between thirty and fifty years since the greater number of the more prominent of the present-day college secret orders began their careers of usefulness to the social world and the body politic. No woman ever joined a college Greek-letter society or attempted to establish one for her use for at least a hundred years after the founding of the first Greek fraternity for men; and even ten years ago the woman's college Greek-letter sorority was entirely unknown outside of a limited number of the larger and more university-like women's colleges in the North. It might safely



be said that it has not been five years since the first chapter of a Greek-letter fraternity of any pretensions whatever was established on Virginia soil. And even now the number of chapters is very small and hardly bears comparison with the number of men's fraternities at the state's colleges and universities.

It was after a consideration of all these things, with a proper regard for the needs of such an institution, that a number of young ladies of the State Female Normal School, at Farmville, Virginia, established on October 25, 1898, the first permanent and prominent Greek-letter sorority ever organized in this state. For some time the needs of some social organization for banding together spirits of a congenial nature and preserving in permanent form certain lofty social ideals had impressed themselves upon a number of the leading young women in attendance upon this school at that time. So permission was obtained from the faculty of the institution, full preparation made in the way of constitutional beginnings, a study made into the workings of the various similar or partially-similar societies for both men and women, and the organization was finally perfected under the name and title of the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority. The nine original members were Misses Alice Bland Coleman and Ethel Lee Coleman of King and Queen County, Virginia; Helen Lee Crafford and Mary C. Jones, of Newport News; Alice Maud Jones, of Buckingham; Della E. Lewis, Ruby Bland Leigh, Frances Yancey Smith, of Smithville, Virginia, and Miss Alice Welsh of Richmond.

The sorority prospered from the very beginning. The aims of the society were generally known to be the highest, and immediately the sympathy of the best people was attracted toward the organization. It was but a little while before it was considered a very high honor to wear the pin. And this feeling has constantly increased until the present time, when it is looked upon as a great help socially to be a member of Zeta Tau Alpha, which has begun to establish chapters in the leading schools and colleges for women all over the country.

Not only was a well-nigh perfect ritual prepared for the governing of the order, and songs, colors, yells, and necessary adjuncts adopted, but the sorority was chartered and made a body politic at the last session of the Legislature of the state of Virginia, the first college Greek-letter organization which has been similarly recognized in this state, or, so far as is known, in any state in the Union.

The sorority was incorporated in an act approved March 15, 1902. The patron of the bill was Mr. Frank C. Moon, a well-known member of the bar, and a representative of Buckingham County in the State Senate.

The bill, which created considerable interest, contained in part the following clauses:

"1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia, that Grace Elcan, Frances Yancey Smith, Susie Ware Warner, Pearl Garrett Hundley, and Mary Olivia Frayser, and such other persons as are now or may hereafter be associated with them, are hereby declared to be a body politic and corporate by the name, style, and title of the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority, and by that name shall be known in law, and shall have perpetual succession and a common seal, which may be a scroll or impression, with the right to change same at pleasure, and shall have power to sue and be sued, contract and be contracted with, and have all the rights and privileges of corporation, and be subject to all rules, regulations, and restrictions, and do all acts, and enjoy all powers incident to similar corporations in general under and subject to the laws of the Commonwealth.

"The object of said association shall be to intensify friendship, to promote happiness among its members, and in every way to create such sentiments, to perform such deeds, and to mould such opinions as will conduce to the building up of a nobler and purer womanhood in the world."

In continuing, the act states that the association is for benevolent purposes, and that there shall be no capital stock; that no charter tax is required, and that the association shall

have the right to purchase, receive by gift, devise, bequest or otherwise, personal or real estate, up to and including the sum of ten thousand dollars.

This act of incorporation brought the sorority prominently before the public, and placed it above any similar society in the state in legal standing.

The sorority has recently had lithographed in Baltimore a magnificent charter, a copy of which will go to every chapter now in the order, and to every new chapter as established. The work on the charter is of the highest quality, and does credit to any organization.

The badge of the sorority is a shield, gold, with black enameled smaller raised shield in centre. The border is generally chased or jeweled. Any kind of jewels may be used, and the price of the pin may cost as low as four and as high as a hundred dollars. The initials Z T A are arranged above a gold crown on the pin and the word "Themis" in Greek characters is made in gold beneath.

The colors of the sorority are turquoise blue and steel gray, and the sorority flower is the white violet.

There are yells and sorority songs and the category of such necessities is increasing daily.

Through the courtesy of I. W. Hoen, of the firm of lithographers in Baltimore, Maryland, Zeta Tau Alpha was next indebted to Grace Elcan for the gift of a beautifully engraved charter.\* Through the years Alpha members recalled their great pride when it arrived. They constantly referred to it as "our most prized possession." It was about a yard square and even in those days of lower prices, it was valued at somewhere between \$50 and \$100. The charter usually hung in the room of the president. Alpha chapter provided an artistic frame for it.

When the 1906 convention recalled Alpha's charter, this historic possession disappeared. Despite years of searching and questioning, its disposal and subsequent fate became an unsolved mystery. Diligent efforts failed to find any trace of it. Besides being the historically priceless original charter, it was the only one on which the title "Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority," ever appeared, for the 1903 convention recorded the thereafter permanent preference for the term *fraternity*. While it may have been misplaced or destroyed through error, hope of its eventual recovery has never been abandoned.

Grace Elcan's brief telegram, "Charter granted Zeta Tau Alpha," was received at the Normal with rejoicing. Having their own ideas of what constituted good taste under the circumstances, and "being too modest to proclaim their good fortune," they quietly placed copies of the newspaper in the library. The news spread quickly. One of Alpha chapter's "happy memories" was the fact that the Kappa Deltas and the Sigma Sigma Sigmas were the first to congratulate them.

\* Mary Frayser (McGehee) was Alpha's president when the beautiful new charter arrived, so it was decided to hang it in her room. "It was beautifully engraved," she wrote, "and our colors were inserted in the lower corner. The engraving began with the words, 'Be It Enacted by the General Assembly . . . ' and each of us signed our names. Each of us revered that charter. . . . We soon began to talk of nothing but broadening out and going into other schools. I never knew what became of the charter. . . ."



"MISS SARAH'S TABLE." Front row, left to right, Hallie Owen, K Δ; Alma Gaines; Alice Coleman, Z T A (third in the front row); Madge Goode, K Δ. In the middle, L'Ellen Armstrong, Z T A. Top row: Portia Lee Owen, Miss Sarah, with her niece, Sarah Lyle Spencer; Ethel Coleman, Z T A. Like so many other pictures of this period, the girls who sat at Miss Sarah's table had this one made by H. H. Hunt, the Farmville photographer.

### Extension Realized

A few weeks later, chapter records told of the extension that quickly followed the charter grant:

On May, 1902 . . . Let it be known that we received our charter from the legislature, March 15, 1902, and have established two new chapters, one at Hannah More Academy, Reistertown, Maryland, and one *sub rosa* at Woman's College, Richmond. Truly this has been the crowning year of Zeta Tau Alpha. We discussed the sending of one girl to Richmond next Friday, the ninth, and decided that Pearl Hundley should go for the purpose of initiating the girls at the college. We decided to add three new amendments\* to our constitution.

\* This first interesting amendment was a forerunner of the later-day custom governing individual observance at the time of the passing of a member. "In every chapter . . . the members in college, on hearing of the death of a sister shall show their sorrow by wearing a small piece of crêpe under their ZTA pins for the stated time of one month. Should a member of a chapter die while at college, all members present at said college shall wear crêpe under their pins for one year."

Two other amendments dealt with secret signals and signs by which a member might signal to another. The other was a membership test. Both of these were evidently displaced by the fraternity grip adopted later, but both were extremely ingenious.



It was a foregone conclusion that the first extension would be in the southern states. The North already had many strongly organized groups. The South was the territory that was uncovered and toward which the Founders naturally looked. They knew best their Virginia and the South. They had none of the northern contacts or connections that would have been necessary for the establishment of northern branches. Thus it was logical for them to plant the first chapters in their native Southland.

Seminaries and women's colleges, the most favored types of educational institutions for women, were the ones best known to the Founders and their friends. Consequently they thought of them first. Coeducation was still far off in Virginia. But the Founders entertained no prejudice in that respect. The interesting point is that everything surrounding them, custom, tradition, the possible location as well as their own educational contacts, predetermined the natural trend of their first ideas in extension. These conclusions are authenticated in the previously quoted Article V of the first (1899) constitution of Alpha chapter.

How did they feel toward northern girls? The War Between the States was still a vivid memory in their households. Was the northern girl included in any feeling that existed toward that part of the country? The question put to them as a formality received a ready reply. Theirs was definitely a section of the country in which children grew up thinking that damnyankee was one word. Some of the Founders thought that. But they pointed out that "any adverse sentiment regarding the North as a result of the war would necessarily have been reflective on their part, not ingrained, for they had no feeling but one of cordiality for the girls of all sections of the country."

They envisioned a fraternity in which there were no sectional distinctions. Zeta Tau Alpha would draw them all together—East and West and North and South—in one band.

The year 1902 was of marked importance. New chapters were added. A state charter was granted. At the September, 1902, Farmville meeting of six Alpha members led by Bruce Davis, the government was placed in the hands of the *alumnæ*. Maud Jones, even though she was not present, became the first President of Arch Chapter (later Grand Chapter).



TWO EARLY ALPHAS. Janie Crute (Traywick) and Edith Duvall (Reed).



"ZETA TAU ALPHA FRATERNITY"

Thus ran the title of the chapter picture found in the *Virginian* of 1905. The Alpha members are listed as follows: (1) Janet Duvall (Blanton), (2) Sallie Rice (Nottingham), (3) Helen Jordan (Cabell), (4) Edith Brent Duvall (Reed), (5) Steptoe Campbell (Wood), (6) Harriet King Bugg (Duvall), (7) Clair Woodruff (Bugg), (8) Margaret Brydon, (9) Lizzie Kizer, (10) Julia Drew Palmer (Taylor), (11) Caroline Kyle (Baldwin), (12) Mary Coleman, (13) Olive Hinman, (14) Emma Lawson Waring (Long), (15) De Berniere Smith (Gray).



#### ALPHA CHAPTER'S FIRST FORMAL PICTURE—1900

*Front row left to right, seated:* Edith Lawrence (Landstreet), Helen Crafford, Maud Jones (Horner), Bruce Houston (Davis), Mary Campbell Jones (Batte).

*Middle row, standing:* Jessie Whitmore (Booker), Mary Power Farthing, Frances Yancey Smith, Mary Adams (Eyster), Emma Magruder (Cook), Josephine Goodwin (Parsons).

*Top row:* Nettie Dunnington Morton (Scott).

An eager worker for expansion, Maud Jones was also an ardent conservative. Always known and acknowledged as the leader of the Founders, her contribution as a national officer was highly important, but her work with the founding and her leadership during the days at the Normal stand out the clearest of all.

Elected Grand President in 1903, it was she who stated, in writing, the policy of conservative expansion and the early-day small chapters. She also listed the qualifications. In a letter written at a date sometime between 1903 and 1904 to a prospective chapter, she first gave them the basis for the policy of small chapters that existed for many years. Zeta Tau Alpha approved of a group containing five to twelve members, she explained. Five was assumed to be the minimum and twelve the maximum. She advised that, "in selecting





### ROMANCE IN VIRGINIA

Not only spring skies, but an arched bower of double white violets, symbolic of Zeta Tau Alpha, intertwined with the badges of ZTA and Chi Phi (a fraternity well represented in Alpha chapter at that time), look down upon the two romantic couples sketched by the Normal artist in the 1900 *Virginian*. Bruce Houston Davis was the editor-in-chief that year.

your crowd you must be very careful to get girls who are thoroughly congenial, and who will work well together." Then she added, "Of course I take for granted that their social and class standing are all that could be desired." Her final

## *Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity*

### *Alpha Chapter*

ESTABLISHED 1898.

CHARTERED 1902

### *Roll of Chapters*

|               |                                |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| ALPHA .....   | State Normal School            |
| BETA .....    | Sub Rosa                       |
| GAMMA .....   | Hannah Moore Academy           |
| DELTA .....   | Randolph-Macon Woman's College |
| EPSILON ..... | University of Arkansas         |

COLORS: Turquoise Blue and Steel Gray.

FLOWER: Double White Violet

### *In Urbe*

EDITH BRENT DUVAL

HATTIE KING BUGG

CLAIR WOODRUFF

CARRIE LLEWELLYN KYLE

MRS. WALKER SCOTT

### *In Collegio*

JULIA DREW PALMER

MARY CLAUDIA PERKINS

MARY ELIZABEH HERBERT

GEORGIE MAY MILLER

EMMA LAWSON WARING

OLIVE MAY HINMAN

JESSIE EVERS WHITMORE

JANIE MAY CRUTE

ELIZABETH WINDSOR KING

ADA EMERSON MILLER

LILA WALLER DUVAL

Biennial Convention, Lynchburg, Va., June 6-9, 1904.

DELEGATES: CLAIR WOODRUFF, OLIVE HINMAN

FACSIMILE OF THE ZETA TAU ALPHA PAGE in the 1903 *Virginian*.

words were that "appearance, culture and refinement are necessary," and that "the petitioners must show intelligence."

Summed up, her qualifications were: congeniality, scholarship, the proper and normal sense of social refinement expected in a college girl, culture, appearance and intelligence.

Maud Jones took it for granted that members would have personal dignity and poise, qualities so marked in her. She required that chapters maintain dignity, not only in their conduct, but in regard to anything that was a part of, or pertained to, Zeta Tau Alpha. She reproved a chapter for making crêpe-paper party caps of gray and blue.

As President she was insistent that the constitution and by-laws be ad-



TWO FARMVILLE ZETAS in 1903  
Clair Woodruff (Bugg) and Lila DuVal

hered to. In those early days there were times when by-passing that document seemed more profitable than adhering to it. When badges were sent ahead to Delta chapter's charter members the worried girls in Farmville were sure that an emergency warranted the constitutional divergence. Maud Jones wrote a firm letter but, of course, the action had taken place.

It was also in 1902 that the name of Bruce Houston Davis began to figure prominently. In college she was known for her beauty, popularity and brilliance. President of the junior class, in her senior year she was chosen editor-in-chief of the 1900 *Virginian* (college annual), a signal honor. Entering the Normal in 1898, she was an active member following her initiation in 1899. That activity increased after her marriage to an alert fraternity man who took a deep interest in the affairs of his wife's fraternity. She became the motivating force in continuing Zeta Tau Alpha as a national organization.





ALPHA CHAPTER—JUNE, 1904

Thus again, as in the charter-story, a vital behind-the-scenes phase was unfolding—that did not appear in Alpha chapter's minutes. Those minutes, however, did record stepped-up activity as the time drew near to June, 1903, the date of the first national convention which was receiving so much attention from Bruce Davis. The establishment of a chapter at Randolph-Macon Woman's College again emerged. This time it became a reality.

The regular meeting . . . was held in Miss Smithey's classroom at 3:30 P.M., September 29, 1902. . . . The object was to decide about establishing a chapter at Women's College, Lynchburg. There were two letters from Bruce Davis in which she told us Janie Kinnear of Lynchburg would help us in our work at the college and if possible, for some one of us to go to Lynchburg as soon as we could. . . . We also spoke of establishing a chapter at Southern College, Petersburg. . . .

October 4, 1902. . . . We . . . decided definitely about the initiation of the girls for our Delta chapter at R.M.W.C., Lynchburg, Virginia. It was decided that Jessie Whitmore go to Lynchburg, and, if possible, Fannie Smith go with her . . .

November 22, 1902. . . . A letter was also read from Lucy DuVal of Gamma telling us their plans and the rapid strides Gammas had been making in the last few weeks. . . .

Something ritualistically extra-curricular was recorded in the minutes of February 7, 1903:

The serious initiation passed off very solemnly as usual, but when it came time to be admitted into the realm of Mr. William Goat, the younger goat . . . was seized with a case of hysterics and thus the fun came to a short stop much sooner than we had intended. . . . The banquet table was spread with all that we could wish for.

No weak tea and paper-thin store cookies climaxed their events. Faithfully recorded is the thread of banquets, "grand suppers," spreads, feasts, fudge



ALPHA CHAPTER as it appeared in the February, 1906, *Themis*

parties, et cetera that runs through Alpha chapter's history. They had no money, but they did not seem to need it.

Rushing in those days followed the familiar pattern. Take, for instance, the rush given Caroline Kyle and Hattie Bugg, two town girls whom the Zetas wanted very much. Competition was keen. The others wanted them, too. Janie Crute (Traywick) remembered that "we took that pair to Chappells for ice cream, we took them for walks, we invited them to fudge parties." Although they lived in the shadow of the college, the freshmen were naïve. Suddenly these girls at the Normal, many of whom Carrie and Hattie had known all their lives, began to shower them with attention. Carrie declared, "I didn't know what in the world was the matter with you all—*why* the sudden attention."

At intervals, literary programs and the presentation of papers were features of the meetings.

The last recorded meeting of the college year was held on May 2, 1903.



The chief business centered around the approaching convention which marked the end of one era, and ushered in a new.

Maud Jones was again chosen President, and Bruce Davis continued as Secretary-Treasurer, handling the small amount of money in the treasury, and writing the many letters devolving upon even a pioneer secretary. "Bruce and Will Davis had worked on two drafts of the constitution and by-laws, later presenting the initiation ceremony for adoption."

The minutes, accurately kept, contained much interesting information about chapter life. The deepest interest and cooperation were shown in extension, and there was a marked determination to maintain an appropriately high standing for chapter efficiency and national cooperation. In 1904, following the second convention, at which Mrs. Davis became the second Grand President, Alpha wrote that "the new form of meeting was used, and we found that we were becoming accustomed to it, and our meetings were . . . made . . . more interesting."

Elections and meetings proceeded regularly. Sometimes class-rooms were used, but as often the Alpha members assembled at private homes. Characteristically, "delightful refreshments" always concluded the meetings.

But the last years of the first phase of Alpha chapter's existence were approaching. Its quiescence was being foreshadowed in the very success the group was having, and in the early purpose of becoming a national organization. In achieving the latter aim it was to encounter a stumbling block that resulted in the loss of Alpha chapter from the active Zeta picture for many years. In the meantime, though, the Farmville group led a prosperous, happy life.

The next year Alpha gave the fraternity this news in the June, 1904, *Themis*:

Before this letter appears in print we shall have two new sisters to introduce to our fraternity, since the new law which has been laid down by the authorities causes us to have our initiations in February and June. . . .

Alpha enjoys very much indeed the social gatherings which she has every two weeks. An especially enjoyable one was a Valentine party given by Claudia Perkins and Janie May Crute to Alpha's "goats," February 13, 1904. Each member . . . as she entered the room was presented with a heart upon which she was requested to write in ten minutes a new yell for Zeta Tau Alpha. At the dainty luncheon which followed, impromptu toasts were given



CLAIR WOODRUFF BUGG  
in 1905.



and the speakers all gained hearty applause. Alpha has decided to have a social gathering every month and is highly elated over the plan, for it increases the social feeling among the members. . . .

Among our girls who have recently distinguished themselves in dramatic art are Sisters Perkins, Waring, Crute, Herbert and Miller. . . .

Alpha chapter is in receipt of an invitation to a tea from the Chi Phi fraternity of Hampden-Sydney. . . .

In the May, 1905, issue of *Themis*, Alpha gaily reported that

We have been working and playing too, playing because some of our sisters are taking senior education and insist that "play as an educational factor is necessary for the all 'round girl." As this is what we desire to be, we have followed their advice. Our social functions have been very informal but all the more enjoyable. The following girls have each entertained in turn, Hattie Bugg, Julia Palmer, Olive Hinman and Edith and Janet Duvall. That we had a good time is almost too obvious to mention, for you know what jolly times Zeta Tau Alphas have when they are together, especially when we are being served with delicious refreshments as we were in each case.

They also told of "a jolly trip to historic Appomattox to hear the address delivered at the unveiling of the North Carolina monument."

Through the November, 1905, *Themis*, Alpha related that

This fall term found eleven sisters . . . back. School opened this year with an increased attendance of about 100 girls, and we look forward to a successful session. We are very proud of our new auditorium, which is one of the handsomest in the state, and the new dormitories are also a great addition to the school in that they accommodate a hundred girls beyond the capacity of last year.

All but one or two of our girls belong to the literary societies and seven are members of the Glee Club. Edith Duvall is editor-in-chief of the *Guidon* and Gertrude Burton and Lizzie Kizer also hold positions on the *Guidon* staff. Other offices held by Alpha are: Carrie Kyle, corresponding secretary of the Argus Literary Society; Bernie Smith, vice-president of the Y.W.C.A., and Mary Coleman, vice-president of the German Club. It is needless to say that the prospects for our chapter this year are very bright.

Officers for the year are: Edith Brent Duvall, Mary Coleman, Lizzie B. Kizer, Carrie L. Kyle, Steptoe Campbell, Bernie Smith.

After some serious rushing we were happy to put our colors on three pledges, and the initiation was held on the night of the 14th of October. We were glad to have with us that night two of our married sisters, Mrs. Walker Scott and Mrs. Elliott R. Booker, both of Farmville, Virginia. After the goats were introduced into the mysteries of the Greek world, we gathered for a feast and the rest of the evening was spent in giving ZTA songs, toasts and yells.

Alpha extends a hearty grip for every sister in Zeta Tau Alpha.

By 1906, Alpha's membership roll included fifty-eight names, the final number taken into the chapter in the first stage of its existence.

In 1904, Mrs. Davis was instrumental in adding Zeta chapter. The following year she began activity on the all-important goal she had in mind. She had never lost sight of the original plan for the fraternity, which was one of destined nationalism.

### The Decisive Intersorority Conference

Zeta Tau Alpha's admittance as a member organization into the new, but highly important Intersorority Conference, was Bruce Davis' goal. She realized that the fraternity could not go forward without it and that satisfactory expansion on strong campuses was impossible without it.

In 1905, Mrs. Davis took the second step of great importance to the fraternity's future when she first attempted to secure Zeta Tau Alpha's membership in this Conference (later known as the National Panhellenic Conference). Of this period an early *Themis* article said, "Perhaps no one person has played a greater part in the development of Zeta Tau Alpha than Bruce Houston Davis, whose guardianship of and ambition for the fraternity during her long régime led to our becoming national." For "becoming national" was what Intersorority Conference membership meant.



ALPHA CHAPTER AT THE DUVALL HOME—SPRING, 1906

A group picture taken one afternoon in the spring of 1906, after Alpha had met at the home of Edith and Janet Duvall.

*Third (top) row:* Mary Coleman, Lizzie Kizer (wearing glasses), Martha Blanton, Isa McKay Compton, Steptoe Campbell (Wood), leaning against pillar.

*Second row, left to right:* Flossie Rawlings, sitting against pillar, Margaret Brydon, with tie on, Edith Duvall (Reed), Helen Jordan (Cabell), Caroline Kyle (Baldwin), with Harriet Duvall's arm in her lap, Gertrude Davidson (Higginbotham), Hattie Crute.

*Front row, left to right:* Mildred Blanton (Button), Harriet Bugg (Duvall) center, with bow in her hair, Emma Waring (Long), Gertrude Burton (Schuessler), Mollie Byerly (Owen), Janet Duvall (Blanton).

However, that same year, for the first time, the Conference decided upon admittance requirements. Zeta Tau Alpha could not meet them. Ironically, the reason was that strong Zeta chapters existed on the campuses of colleges considered highly desirable in Virginia, but not then on the Conference's accredited list. Stunned but undaunted, Mrs. Davis set about the difficult task of bringing understanding of the situation to the chapters affected, especially Alpha. That was not only difficult; it was heartbreaking. The news was broken that Zeta Tau Alpha could not become a national organization without relinquishing several chapters, including Alpha and Eta.

The possibility of Alpha's becoming inactive was first mentioned in the minutes of December 6, 1905, when the secretary commented that "the bare thought of having Alpha removed, or rather taken away, has quite upset us all. We will do anything that will be of the least bit [of] good." Ensuing meetings recorded other observations from time to time that showed the trend of thought, the decision and the final philosophical reconciliation to what seemed to be the inevitable step. A strong, vigorous chapter suddenly faced the fact of having no future. They could not know that forty-three years later, the thread would again be picked up.

On the fraternity's fortieth anniversary Mrs. Davis wrote: "While I was President it became necessary to relinquish several of our chapters not in colleges meeting the National Panhellenic Conference's standards of rating, in order that Zeta Tau Alpha might meet the requirements to become a member organization. Ida Shaw Martin, Delta Delta Delta, was most helpful during that period. . . . The greatest blow was the necessary loss of our mother chapter, Alpha. But I feel now that all can see the glorious results of becoming a national organization with membership in N.P.C."

However, as late as 1926 Bruce Davis was not sure that all the members fully understood, for the step seemed drastic to those not facing the competition of NPC's member groups, and attached to her name was that step.

Interestingly, Maud Jones Horner was one of the early members whose letters show continued regret at the relinquishment of Alpha chapter. She apparently was torn between the desire to see the chapter remain at Farmville, and a realization of the fact that the step taken was necessary. One letter reveals her hesitancy in believing that it really was necessary. "Surely progress could come without it." Her own personal decision probably would have been in favor of retaining the chapter on the active roll, but after the step was taken, she hoped ardently for success.

The last officers were: Edith Duvall (Reed), Mary Coleman (sister of Alice and Ethel Coleman), Lizzie Kizer, Caroline Kyle (Baldwin), Steptoe Campbell (Wood) and Margaret Brydon. The last initiate was Mildred Elizabeth Blanton (Button), of Farmville.





## ANOTHER 1906 PICTURE

*Third (top) row, left to right:* Janet Amanda Duvall (Blanton), Mollie Bland Byerley (Owen), Gertrude Davidson (Higginbotham), Lizzie B. Kizer, Martha Blanton, Hattie Winifred Grute, Harriet King Bugg (Duvall).

*Second row, left to right:* Caroline Llewellyn Kyle (Baldwin), Helen Jordan (Cabell), Isa McKay Compton, Emma Lawson Waring (Long), Flossie Rawlings (with the bow in her hair), Edith Brent Duvall (Reed).

*Front row, left to right:* Mary Anderson Coleman, Mildred Blanton (Button), Gertrude Burton (Schuessler), Margaret Page Brydon (with the tie on), Steptoe Campbell (Wood).

Alpha's 1906 swan song, the farewell chapter letter which appeared in *Themis*, displayed a broad and unselfish spirit. Until the members graduated, those at the Normal held regular meetings every two weeks. Their last chapter letter ran:

The last fraternity meeting of the year is always a sad one, for it is probably the last time that all the girls will be together. These girls with whom you have worked, with whom you have shared your joys and sorrows during the year, have grown very dear to you. Our final meeting last year was an especially sad one, for we knew that it would be the last one that Alpha chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha would hold. Just think, sisters, what this meant to us. It meant that when we came back this year we would have to sit quietly by and watch the other fraternities rush the new girls, and must know that there was none of it for us. No more initiations to look forward to, to plan and prepare for.

Last year Alpha had twenty members, and I think I can truthfully say that we had a strong chapter. For in my mind unity is the principal thing that helps to make a chapter strong.



#### FORMING THE GREEK LETTER ALPHA FOR THE LAST TIME

The third and last of the pictures taken that spring afternoon at the Duvall home<sup>1</sup> in Farnville, in 1906. Knowing that Alpha's charter would be withdrawn at the coming convention in June, the Normal Zetas had these last photographs taken. For this final picture they chose to form the Greek letter A.

*From left front to back:* (1) Gertrude Davidson (Higginbotham); (2) Mildred Blanton (Button); (3) Flossie Rawlings; (4) Lizzie Kizer; (5) Mary Coleman; (6) Gertrude Burton (Schuessler); (7) Edith Duvall (Reed); (8) Steptoe Campbell (Wood); (9) Emma Waring (Long); (10) Margaret Brydon; (11) Janet Duvall (Blanton); (12) Isa Comp-ton; (13) Helen Jordan (Cabell); (14) Harriet Bugg (Duvall); (15) Hattie Crute.

*Across front, left to right:* (1) Martha Blanton; (2) Caroline Kyle (Baldwin) (center); (3) Mollie Byerley (Owen).

We twenty girls worked together in everything last year, and though it was some time before we all came to the conclusion that it would be best for Alpha to be taken away, in the end our consent was unanimous. We felt that we would rather give up our chapter than be in any way a drawback to the general fraternity, for it is the good of the fraternity as a whole for which we are all working.

The 1906 convention went through the necessary formalities of charter revocation. Alpha members maintained their ties through personal friendships, but the mother chapter took inactive status. College members graduated.

And Alpha chapter stepped into the pages of history for a long span of years.

### Supplementary Notes

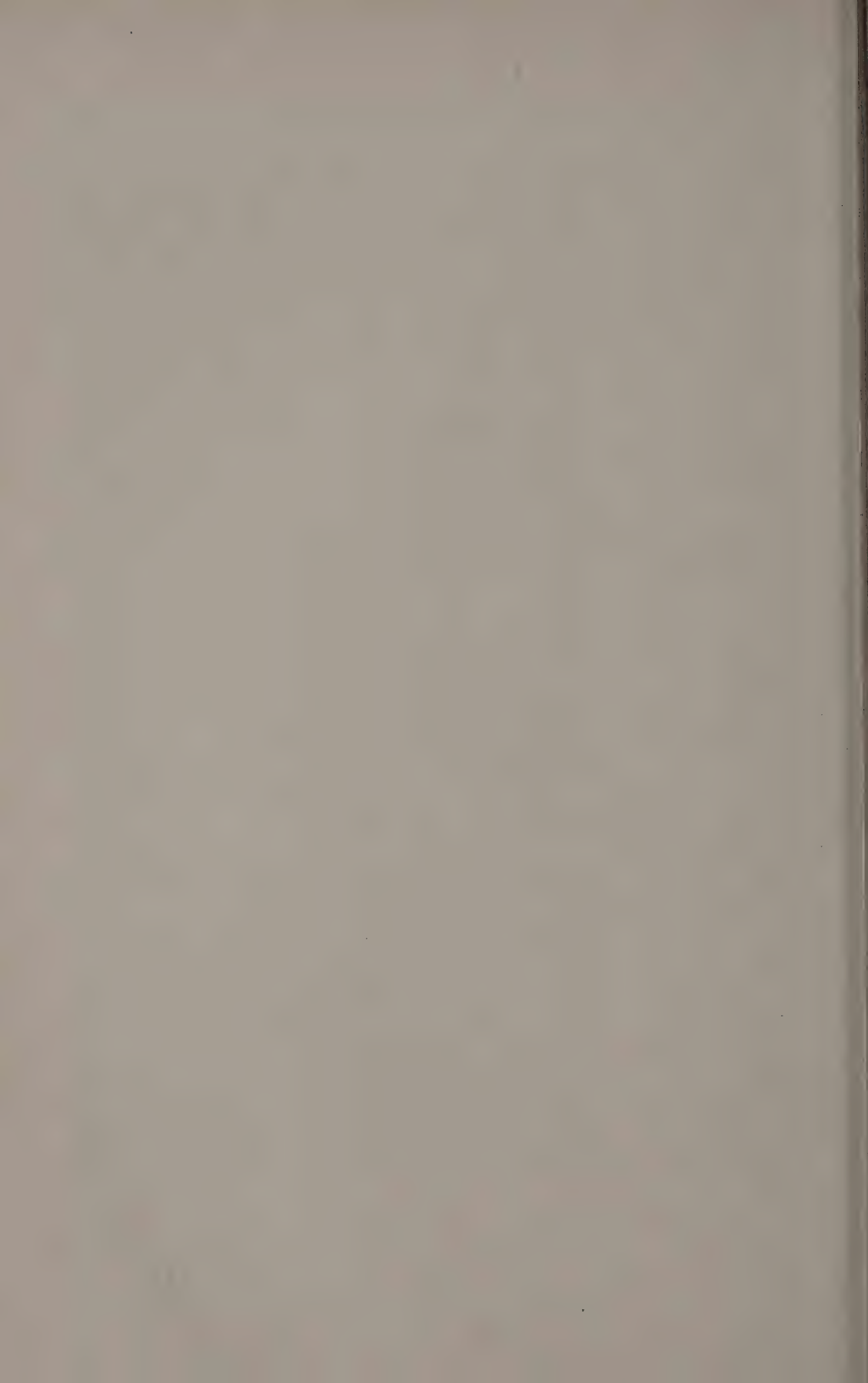
1. In later years the restored Duvall home, which now adjoins the Library, became Longwood College's Alumnæ House. Of particular historical interest—and special Zeta interest—is one of the guest rooms, the furnishings for which were presented to the College as a memorial to Jessie Whitmore Booker, Alpha, '04, by her son and daughter. The bedroom suite is of Florentine design. The bed, marble top, dresser, two marble top tables and a wash stand belonged to the donors' grandfather, Colonel Richard Anderson Booker, who was the proprietor of the Randolph House—Farmville's present Prince Edward Hotel—at the time of the War Between the States.

The Lee, Grant bed is usually singled out for special mention. In 1955 it "was considered to be between ninety and one-hundred years old," and, quoting the *Farmville Herald*, it was "closely associated with the visits to Farmville of Generals Lee and Grant." General Lee is thought to have rested briefly at the Randolph House on April 6, on his way to Appomattox, but as late as 1956 that point had not been fully resolved.

General Grant, however, spent the following night there. "It was in the privacy of the Randolph House room, and on the very table which is part of the suite, that Grant is supposed to have written the draft of his first surrender proposal, which reached General Lee near Cumberland Church."

The donors stipulated that the furniture shall always remain in Farmville, and in the possession of the Alumnæ Association.





## The Chapters\*

ORIGINAL (OLD) BETA: As recorded in Alpha chapter's minutes, the first Beta chapter was installed soon after Zeta Tau Alpha received its charter from the state. To the elated girls in Farmville the granting of the fraternity's first charter was a triumph of which they were inordinately proud. Further, Beta's establishment marked Zeta's début as a national organization.

Installation, held at the home of Alice Welsh, in Richmond, was in charge of Maud Jones (Horner), the first Grand President, assisted by the hostess and Pearl Hundley (Ware), Alpha chapter's representative. No records are available by which the installation date of May 17, 1902 can be verified, but there is little doubt of its accuracy. The Historical Collection's red-backed minute book inscribed "To Beta Chapter, Richmond Woman's College," in Maud Jones's handwriting, contains also the constitution, and the rules and regulations carefully written out by her for this new chapter she was welcoming with so much pride.

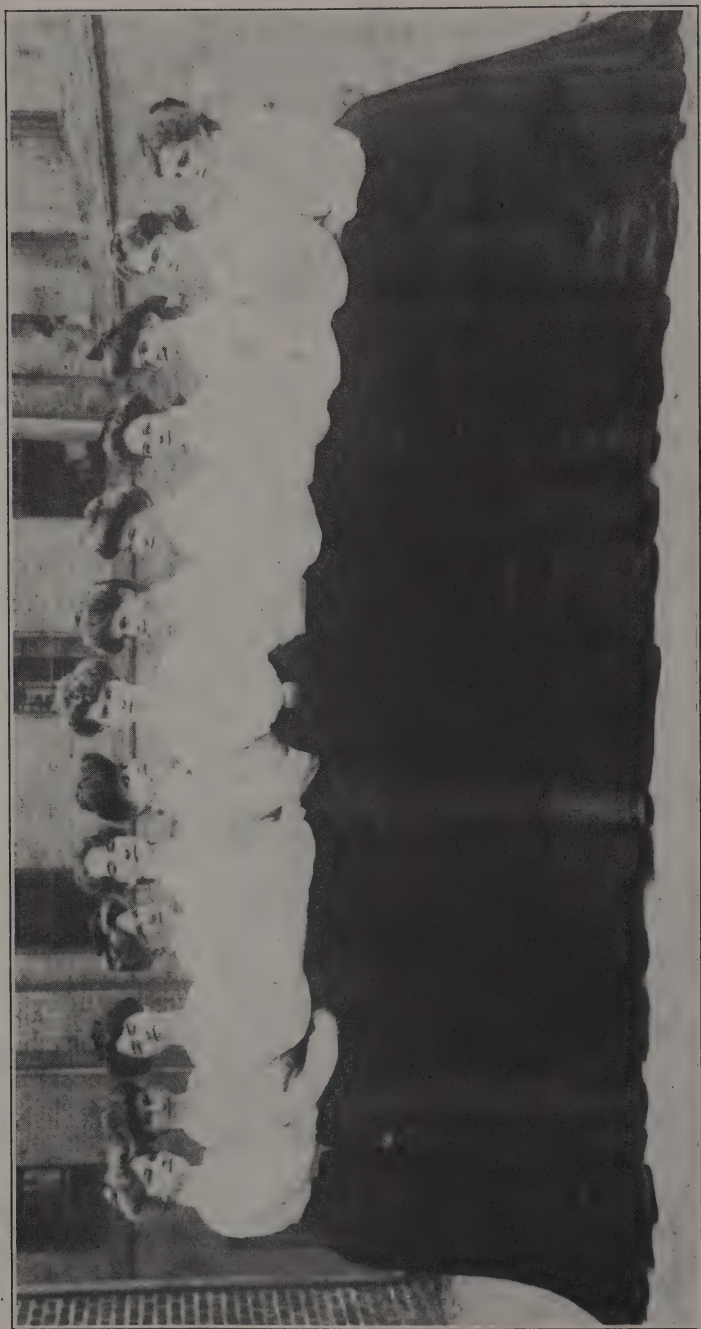
Precarious, however, was the position of the eager, yet fearful initiates-to-be. Secret societies were banned at the college, so they could not go in a group for the ceremonies. They went, one by one, for initiation. They risked expulsion for the coveted badge. And three or four of the local group which Zeta absorbed never managed to get there at all. Selection of a national fell on Zeta Tau Alpha because of the friendship between Claudia Perkins (Taylor), Alpha, and Mary Saunders (Richardson).

Those who became members of this first Beta chapter were: Louise Lake (Collier), Leslie Jeffries (Wallace), Lucy Thomas (Powell), Mary Saunders (Richardson), Mamie Collier (Vaiden), Jennie Tiller, Rosa Baker, Ruth Turner (Southall) and Nora White. This was the only chapter installed by Maud Jones, and the only one installed in the home of a Founder.

Despite the fact that the chapter's existence was well-publicized in the Richmond press, Original Beta lived its short life as a *sub rosa* chapter because of faculty opposition which, as related in old letters, kept the new members badly frightened. The threat of expulsion was always present.

Regular meetings, according to Ruth Turner (Southall), were held during the

\* The story of Alpha chapter is covered in the chapter on "Founding and Early Days."



#### ORIGINAL BETA

Or rather, the group from which the Old Beta members came. Because of the necessary secrecy attached to the occasion, not all the members of the local group were able to attend the installation—for fear of being discovered and expelled. Those who braved the perils of the day and were initiated into Zeta Tau Alpha were, reading from left to right: (1) Leslie Jeffries (Wallace), (2) Uninitiated girl, (3) Mary Saunders (Richardson), (4) Nora White, (5) Mamie Collier (Vaiden), (6) Jennie Tiller, (7, 8, 9) Local members who were not initiated, (10) Louise Lake (Collier), (11) Rosa Baker, (12) Ruth Turner (Southall), (13) Lucy Thomas (Powell).



first year, but the college's attitude did not provide conditions under which the chapter could survive, much less flourish. Consequently, the number was not enlarged, and in the spring of 1903, Ruth Turner was the only initiated member left in college. By that time Zeta Tau Alpha's own aversion to, and doubt about, the advisability of *sub rosa* chapters (which were more or less common among organizations in those days) was noticeable in communications, and the first Beta chapter went quietly out of existence.

To some, its demise fell in the learn-by-experience category. An early Historian whose records proved inaccurate in other respects commented that "all sororities have experiences in extension which prove successful or otherwise. Zeta Tau Alpha's first mistake was admitting the smaller school. There is no regret over admitting the girls from the chapters in the smaller schools. They have all proved their loyalty and were girls from typical Maryland and Virginia families, a fact of which Zeta Tau Alpha has always been proud." As a second thought she added that, "in no case, however, has family outweighed brains. Zeta Tau Alphas must have both."

However, the Founders and early Alphas did not agree with that opinion. If faculty opposition had not made continuance impossible, both chapters would have been splendid additions. The finest of girls are found in the smaller colleges. Meanwhile, this was no doubt one of the examples which started Bruce Davis so determinedly toward her goal of placing chapters in coeducational institutions and larger colleges for women.

Time obscured the story and even the existence of Old Beta. It became only a memory to a very few members. When the second letter in the Greek alphabet was given to another chapter, the existence of the original Beta slipped into limbo from which it was rescued only when research for the first *History of Zeta Tau Alpha* discovered it. Complicated and involved to trace, the story of the lost chapter gradually came to light.

Thus ended the brief history of the fraternity's one and only *sub rosa* chapter.

GAMMA: "For nearly seventy years the design of the founder" had been followed and "several generations of girls" had been trained in the fine standards of Hannah More Academy, Reisterstown, Maryland, when, early in 1902, Zeta Tau Alpha became interested in it. With its splendid type of students it was immediately considered an excellent field for extension.

The story of Gamma, the third chapter, is not without its romance, for it had a beginning unlike that of any other chapter in the fraternity.

When Original Beta was installed at Richmond Woman's College, Lucy DuVal (Wormley), sister of Lila DuVal, Alpha, who was in Richmond convalescing from an operation, was initiated with the new chapter. She was then

on the staff of Hannah More Academy as a teacher of physical culture. It was arranged that upon her return she was to select the group that very soon became Gamma chapter.

The exact date of organization can be computed only by early correspondence and a few records. Although the chapter was undoubtedly started in the spring of 1902, final arrangements and chapter plans probably were not completed until October 9, 1902. On that day Lucy DuVal initiated Florence Barrow, Mary Custis Lee, Mary Nelson and Juliet Hobbs (Smith). The roll was gradually increased, adding the names of Eva Cockey (Regester), Henriette Cuendet (Strasser), Alice Godwin, Edwina Yewell, Martha Currie (Cott) and Florence Hart. Two were members of the faculty, and several ministers' daughters were on the chapter roll.

Gamma did not send a representative to the first national convention, and although letters and items from them appeared with some regularity in *Themis*, all the early letters indicate that the chapter had a struggle. This was undoubtedly due to the fact that secret societies were forbidden by the school, and the members encountered resultant difficulties. "This chapter," wrote Maud Jones Horner, "was composed of fine girls, and would have made excellent Zeta Tau Alpha material if it had not been hampered by circumstances."

As a consequence, the 1904 convention put Gamma on probation, but since the next conclave was to take action that automatically revoked all charters in colleges of this educational category, no definite steps were ever taken toward enforcing the 1904 ruling. The chapter "died a natural death," the officers of that period said. Again, the opposition of an administration was a defeating factor in the continuation of a chapter, but again, Gamma would necessarily have been given inactive status because the academy did not meet the collegiate standards required by the Intersorority Conference.

DELTA: For several years before Delta was established, much thought was given to the placing of a greatly desired chapter at Randolph-Macon Woman's College. Indeed, it was one of the first objectives. By 1899, Plummer Jones was deep in correspondence with Frances Yancey Smith about a Lynchburg chapter and he had written one of his persuasive letters to a young lady at the college, whom he knew. But while she was impressed and interested, the plan did not materialize at that time because another incoming group had approached her first.

One of Delta's first histories, explaining the necessity of *sub rosa* chapters in those early years when faculty approval was precariously uncertain, gave that condition as the reason for not establishing a chapter sooner. And that might have affected that situation. At any rate it is certain, as the account said, that "nothing further was done until the fall of 1902," when Bruce Houston

Davis stopped in Lynchburg on her way to Farmville. "The subject was then taken up" with Jaen Kinnier, with whom Mrs. Davis had been in correspondence for a year and a half. It was then "carried through."

Jaen Kinnier interested five of her best friends and they, with her, became the charter members. But before the chapter could be installed, an incident occurred that caused much excitement in Farmville.

The story is amusing, but highly indicative of the intense rivalry existing between the groups at the Normal, all of whom, by 1902, were pursuing their plans for extension. Therefore, precedence in entering a college was highly



#### THE GIRLS TO WHOM THE PINS WERE RUSHED

THE 1902 GROUP, *from left to right*: Mary Hughes Hill (Clarkson), Gwendolen Howe, Lillian Baird (Bradley), Josephine McLeod, Mary Anderson (Roess), Lollie Belle Hardwick (Stuart), Maude Alexander (Janney), Mary Stuart (Stentz). The group is complete except for Jaen Kinnier, the one who was most responsible for Delta. Either she was the photographer at this time, or she was away when the picture was taken.

desirable. Each group unquestionably watched the other with an alertness that was sensitive to each move. Thus panic entered the ranks of the Farmville Zetas when they learned that a representative from another Normal group was starting that afternoon for Lynchburg. Consternation was all the greater because Zeta Tau Alpha's plans for installing Delta chapter were complete, but an Alpha member had not yet been sent to officiate.

Time was short before the afternoon train pulled in. What could they do? "We could think of nothing else than that she was going to establish a chapter. . . . Since we could not possibly go that week to initiate, the next best thing would be to send our pins off on that afternoon train to Janie and let her 'badge' the girls. . . . I wrote Janie the facts and explained that such a thing was never done by us until initiation took place, but that this [was] a special case," ran the account given by an Alpha chapter member in a letter written soon after.



They secured pins from Mr. Wiltsie, a Farmville jeweler. This was another emergency measure, for even then Fetting was supplying the badges. By quick work the pins reached Lynchburg that evening. The date was probably October 7, 1902, or near that time.

"The pins created a stir," Jaen Kinnier wrote, "and the girls were delighted with the whole affair." The badges were worn over ribbons, more to indicate a pledge than formal initiation, they said. That was a rather resourceful move in a day when there were no pledge pins.

But the story's climax had a surprise turn when Kappa Delta's representative went right through Lynchburg to Hollins College, where she did establish

a chapter. So Alpha's anxiety was unnecessary. But in taking what they considered protective measures, they violated the constitution and they knew it. Ensuing letters of explanation to Bruce Davis commented naively that "it might not have been constitutional, but it made one feather in our cap in this peculiar case."

On October 25, 1902, Jaen Kinnier, Mary Hughes Hill (Clarkson), Josephine McLeod, Lillian Baird (Bradley), Mary Alexander (Roess) and Maude Alexander (Janney) were formally initiated by Jessie Whitmore Booker, Alpha. The services were held in the home of Jaen Kinnier, 601 Washington Street, Lynchburg, Virginia. In later years, Mrs. Booker recalled that she "read the ritual and impressive initiation to the girls who came down from the college to the Kinnier home." Typical of the day, it was done simply. Jaen Kinnier entertained the visiting Alpha member.



JAEN KINNIER

That the wrong installation facts were used for years was uncovered when the first *History of Zeta Tau Alpha* was written. For many years Alice Coleman was listed as the installing officer and the incorrect date of March 3, 1902, was given. Miss Coleman recalled writing several letters to a group at Lynchburg when she was secretary of Alpha chapter in the spring of 1899, at a date when, she said, "we were not only in our infancy, but in the embryonic state." Aside from that she could think of no reason for linking her name with Delta.

Delta's first three initiates were Mary Stuart (Stentz), Lollie Belle Hardwick (Stuart) and Gwendolen Howe.

Zeta Tau Alpha was the second fraternity at Randolph-Macon, although it

was the first to be established openly, for at the time of the installation of Delta, the Chi Omega chapter was still *sub rosa*. Thus Zeta Tau Alpha was the first fraternity on the campus with an openly announced chapter.

**EPSILON:** The history of Zeta Tau Alpha at the University of Arkansas really began when the University was but thirty-two years old, and the enrollment was around 800. For Delta Phi, a strong local group, preceded Zeta Tau Alpha and Delta Phi had a distinguished history of its own.

In 1897, the University year book, *The Cardinal*, announced that "the nineteenth of March marked the advent of Delta Phi." It ecstasized that "the day was one of the loveliest, prophetic of the sweetness and happiness to come. The cloudless sky unfurled from zenith to horizon the true, pure, heavenly blue—chosen color of the new sorority. What a happy omen. And Greeks believe in omens, you know.

"That evening the girls of Delta Phi gave a most brilliant reception at Mrs. King Wade's, entertaining the faculty and all of the Greek world of the University of Arkansas." But social life was only part of the pattern. "While we realize," they said, "that social relations not only give grace and charm of manner but form and cement lasting friendships, yet we hold that there is another and higher purpose to be striven for. The true fraternity ideal, the paramount object, is to develop and enrich the whole nature."

From the first, Delta Phi boasted three members on the faculty: Jessie Lee Cravens, Mary Davis and Anna Laird. The founders were: Katherine Patterson, Daisy Patterson, Hattie Williams, Lillian Bibb, and Rose Leverett.

Expressed in their own formal language, in the years following, the new organization "was maintained with a strength and unity surprising in a single chapter among the national fraternities." That really meant the group grew exceedingly strong, with a membership of finest calibre, competing successfully with other campus groups.

Then they heard about Zeta Tau Alpha and Zeta Tau Alpha heard about them through a friend, who, in personal letters, extolled the superiority of the group, warned that they might be hard to get, and gave expert advice on technique. The recommendation was pluperfect, the analyzation exact, the outlined strategy skillful.

Zeta Tau Alpha's Grand Chapter was soon assured that the "members are of a marked homogeneity—students chosen because they are lovable, bright, and honorable, but our sorority is decidedly conservative, and our standard of selection so high that we have hastened slowly in extension." They reported that "chapter rooms had been a strong help in unity among the members, and the spirit of the ancient Greeks . . . looked down upon many a spread and strange prank of his majesty, the goat." So said the record then.

Of course, Delta Phi decided to petition Zeta Tau Alpha. Then, "on one



THE CHARTER MEMBERS OF EPSILON CHAPTER

Margaret Hutcherson

Elizabeth Kell-Rose (Boynnton)

Hattie Williams

Bess Byrnes (Dritt)

Della McMillan (Jackson)

Grace Jordan (Cook)

Mabel Sutton (Wasson)





EPSILON HAS A CHAFING DISH PARTY

evening late in the month of August (1903)," an early historian wrote that "an anxious group of girls met Miss Maude Alexander of Randolph-Macon College, and poured into the ears of a sympathetic listener, all our hopes and desires."

Their petition was successful. By this time Zeta Tau Alpha was intensely eager for this fine group, but following the strategy suggested, Zeta was matching Delta Phi in expressed conservatism and playing hard to get. What it amounted to was that both wanted the best. Zeta wanted Delta Phi and Delta Phi wanted Zeta. However, the true story revolves around an enthusiastic Zeta who not only influenced but swept this strong, superior local off its feet. Her letter-reports to Bruce Davis rhapsodized about the group. The description of her technique and progress was a gem in accomplishment and skillful strategy.

Thus Epsilon swept in, in a blaze of glory and acclaim, on the Arkansas campus. On December 18, 1903, Delta Phi became Zeta's first chapter across the Mississippi River, and the fraternity's fifth charter grant.

The charter members were: Grace Jordan (Cook), Hattie Williams, Della McMillan (Jackson), Elizabeth Kell-Rose (Boynton), Bess Byrnes (Dritt), Mabel Sutton (Wasson) and Margaret Hutcherson. Installation ceremonies were conducted by Maude Alexander (Janney), Undergraduate Member of Grand Chap-

ter, at the home of Della McMillan (Jackson). It was highly appropriate that Maude Alexander returned to officiate, for Epsilon was in no small share her personal triumph.

The chapter was introduced to the Zeta world by the January, 1904, issue of *Themis*, thus gaining the distinction of being the first chapter to be announced through the pages of the newly-launched magazine. The first pictures ever used in *Themis* were those of Epsilon, its chapter room, and the University of Arkansas.

At that time the members introduced were: Elizabeth Kell-Rose (Boynton), Hattie Williams, Hattie Melton, Bess Brynes (Dritt), Margaret Hutcherson, Lila Harrison, Eunice Sanders (Jacks), Sue Birney, Eleanor Vaultx (Risser), Josie Droke (Waugh), Mabel Sutton (Wasson), Grace Jordan (Cook), Della McMillan (Jackson), Lillian Hutcherson, Irene Stockton (Thibault), Irene Manning (Mathis) and Louise Thomas (Mayo).

Zeta was the second national fraternity for women at Arkansas.

ZETA: Bruce Houston Davis let no grass grow under her feet when she went to Tennessee as a bride. She saw in the state university the ideal location for a Zeta chapter and in less than two years the next chapter was placed in the first state university in the United States to admit women. The University of Tennessee, at Knoxville, was also the first to grant the degree of bachelor of arts to women.

Founded in 1794, in 1900 less than fifty women were enrolled and there was only one women's fraternity on the Hill. Chi Omega was followed two years later by Alpha Omicron Pi.

With the assistance of her brother-in-law who was then attending the university, Bruce Davis became interested in a new local group, founded in 1903, which, curiously, was never named. Highly spoken of, the new group was "composed of enthusiastic girls with a splendid record of high scholarship and character." Mrs. Davis actually "inaugurated the movement for the new group, promoted the chapter, and aided in a substantial organization." She was convinced of the need for more women's groups at the University of Tennessee, and she considered it an ideal location for Zeta Tau Alpha, for it was a coeducational field. Such a field had long been her goal.

During the winter of 1904, Mrs. Davis had conferences first with Aileen Shea, and later with the other members. It was not long before the group was ready to petition Zeta Tau Alpha.

At the second national convention, held that year in Cleveland, Tennessee, Bruce Davis' report was so convincing that the charter was granted, and installation followed immediately on June 14, 1904.

The ceremonies, held in Barbara Blount Hall, were conducted by Mrs.

Davis, Grand President; Maude Alexander (Janney), Grand Vice-President; Mary Stuart (Stentz), Grand Secretary-Treasurer and Emma Byrnes (Barnes), Epsilon.

The eight charter members were: Nellie May Hite (Bondy), Maude Hite (Green), Fannie DeGolia, Mabel Gildersleeve, Mary Elizabeth Gildersleeve, Aileen Shea, Sadie Ward (Burleson) and Winona Hinshaw (Campbell).

Writing under the initials A.B.H.D., Bruce Davis herself introduced her new Tennessee chapter in the November, 1904, issue of *Themis*.<sup>\*</sup> "Zeta chapter begins with a membership of eight strong, capable girls whom we feel to be representative of Zeta Tau Alpha," she wrote. "Their fraternity life begins very auspiciously and should their past 'shadow forth their future,' we have gained a strong, willing chapter. The university was made coeducational seven years ago, and as there are only two other girls' fraternities in the institution, we feel that the ground is not over-crowded, and that the high standard of Zeta Tau Alpha can be maintained. Conservatism is still our motto, but we find that our baby chapter measures up to our standard."

Zeta Tau Alpha became the third national fraternity for women on the campus, and Bruce Davis realized her dream of seeing the second Zeta chapter established at a state university.

ETA: Back to Virginia went the seventh charter grant. One of the leading schools in the South for women, Mary Baldwin Seminary<sup>1</sup> was favorably known to the families of many early Zetas whose relatives attended the seminary. It was held in high esteem by the Alpha members, who not only had friends there but viewed it as a highly desirable location for a chapter.

Mary Baldwin was mentioned in correspondence as early as 1899, but not until a few years later, when Zeta Tau Alpha absorbed a strong local group, did the chapter materialize.

Kappa Alpha Pi was organized October 5, 1902, by Marie Baile and Rene Harvey. Its aim was "to cultivate friendship among its members." From the first, an early chronicle said, "it has drawn from the best in the East, West and South." The group flourished. It grew in numbers, held regular meetings and was well organized, even to the possession of a local constitution.

At first they "... had no thought of applying for a charter from some national sorority ... and it was near the close of this session (1903-1904) that we began to look beyond the narrow boundaries of our local life, and to aspire to the broader fields of national existence. It was near commencement, however, so we kept this secret in our hearts until the following year, when we might set to work with a will to win what we thought we were worthy to have and to hold. ... The rumor came that Zeta Tau Alpha was small but that we could

<sup>\*</sup> No picture of Zeta's charter members appeared in *Themis*.





#### THE ZETA CHAPTER AT MARY BALDWIN SEMINARY

*Left to right, sittings:* Nelle Thomason (Woodruff), Laura Williams, Emily Illingsworth, Anna Rose Cohn (Outland).  
*Left to right, standing:* Margaret McConnell (Abrams), Fannie Heiberger (Ross), Bertie Gold, Mollie Doyle, Margaret Moore (Tozzer), Elizabeth Wetmore (Boardman).

never hope to gain a charter unless we came up to their high standards. This only made us 'strong in will to strive, to seek, to find and not to yield.'" The group liked the challenge of qualifying for a fraternity with such high standards.

Kappa Alpha Pi became interested in Zeta Tau Alpha through Nelle Thomason (Woodruff), who was not only a close friend of Clair Woodruff (Bugg), Alpha, but who became her sister-in-law. Alpha chapter's minutes revealed the elation in Farmville over the prospect of having a chapter at Staunton. Clair Woodruff, then secretary of the chapter, commented naïvely that she knew the group was a splendid one because it had the "good taste" to select Zeta Tau Alpha above all others.

Jessie Whitmore (Booker), the official visitor sent from Alpha, inspected the group and Eta chapter was installed November 24, 1904, by Olive Hinman, Grand Historian; Clair Woodruff (Bugg) and Jessie Booker. The charter members were: Fannie Heiberger (Ross), Nelle Thomason (Woodruff), Anna Rose Cohn (Outland), Bertie Chum Gold, Edith Winship (Crawford) and Margaret McConnel (Abrams). Impressed, Fannie Heiberger (Ross) wrote, "We have put away our old badges and buried deep in our hearts the old name of Kappa Alpha Pi, which is changed into something more glorious."

The initiation ceremony and their new-found ties deeply moved these semi-nary girls of 1904. With the grace and dignity characteristic of the period, Nelle Thomason expressed their feelings when she wrote that

We, the girls of Eta chapter, do sincerely feel the honor which has been bestowed upon us in becoming members of the Zeta Tau Alpha fraternity. We feel that we have been taken into the hearts of every member, and acknowledge with love the many letters of welcome received from our new and beloved sisters. We, ourselves, are very proud of the baby chapter and hope some day to make you equally proud of us. The fact that we have someone always interested in our progress will make us work more earnestly in the future and while we do not know our sisters personally, we love them in the bonds of Zeta Tau Alpha. It is sweet to know that we have sisters to stand by us and love us and we hope to prove worthy of their confidence, love and sympathy. We realize more how hard it is to be granted a charter from Zeta Tau Alpha, and knowing this, we appreciate your kind and true friendship much more.

There are few days in a girl's life as happy and as sweet as her college days, and our fraternity bonds will make these days even more cherished. We realize our number is small in comparison with the other chapters, but we will try to make Eta rank always as one of the best, strongest and purest. After the Christmas holidays we hope to add to our list others whom you will be proud to have wear the Zeta Tau Alpha badge. The day on which we were first told the secrets of the fraternity will ever be in our minds the turning point in our new career. We look forward with much pleasure to the convention when our representatives will be able to meet the representatives of every other chapter.

The three installing Zetas were no less moved. In a faithfully recorded story

that took *Themis* readers with her on the time-consuming journey that began at midnight, Olive Hinman wrote that

Clair Woodruff and I considered ourselves very fortunate indeed to be selected by the Grand Chapter to install Eta chapter at Mary Baldwin Seminary, and it was with happy hearts that we started on Thanksgiving at midnight. It was a trip that we shall always remember with pleasure, aside from that of the installation, for neither of us had ever made a day trip through that part of Virginia before, and we thought it beautiful. When we reached Charlottesville we were disappointed to find that we would be delayed there for half a day. However, after we had rested at the hotel for an hour, we took a cab and drove out to the University of Virginia, and although we were so impatient to reach Staunton, we felt that the sight of that beautiful old place almost repaid us for the long wait.

The train never moved so slowly . . . as it did between Charlottesville and Staunton, and it seemed to stop at every by-path. We felt as a noted New Yorker once did: we could have gotten out and walked there faster, only they didn't expect us until that train came. It was indeed pleasant to find awaiting us Jessie Whitmore, who was to assist in the installation and whom we had not seen since her graduation last June. How we talked as we drove to the Seminary! We had much to ask concerning our girls 'to be' and much to learn concerning them during that pleasant drive.

### They finally arrived at the Seminary and

After a short wait in the parlors, which nevertheless seemed to us very long, the girls came. One of them was a special friend of Clair's, but I did not feel at all a stranger after meeting them. We decided to begin the installation as early as possible in the afternoon in order to attend a play given in the evening, to which we had been invited as guests of the Seminary, and we felt that it would be much more pleasant to have nine Zeta Taus present instead of three.

As I write of the initiation of those six girls who have so long been bound together by friendship and love, of their taking the beautiful and sacred oath of Zeta Tau Alpha, I have the sweetest, most solemn feeling, as though I had come in contact with something infinitely sacred. I feel that I have been honored in being chosen to help give these girls all that Zeta Tau Alpha means to us, and to help make them our girls. Jessie, Clair and I feel that they are 'our girls' in reality. . . .

We finished the installation just in time for tea, which we enjoyed very much. Perhaps we enjoyed it a little more because our nine Zeta Tau Alpha pins caused much surprise and comment among the other students. That evening we enjoyed 'Mrs. Wiggs,' but occasionally we would forget the play in looking with pride upon our new Zeta Tau Alphas.

### Then there was business for awhile when

The next morning the form of a business meeting was gone through. It was here that the years of training in Kappa Alpha Pi showed to good advantage. I found the girls needed much less assistance than they would have done otherwise, and we gave them the constitution and ritual, feeling that they were left in experienced hands. Several hours passed quickly and very pleasantly, for our new sisters were eager to hear as much as possible of Zeta Tau Alpha, and we were happy to be there with our 'baby' sisters, and to see them so full of enthusiasm. Mr. King, the business manager of the Seminary, kindly called for us and was very good indeed, showing us over the Seminary buildings and grounds. In going through the dormitories we were delightfully surprised to find one Zeta Tau Alpha room done in blue and gray pennants.



The remainder of the morning we spent in driving over Staunton seeing the sights and early in the afternoon we left for home, saying a reluctant good-bye to our new chapter. Our return trip was much the same as our former one had been, except we had much more to discuss: Eta chapter, the hospitality of Mary Baldwin Seminary, and the loyal girls we had left to guard and to keep the mystic secrets of Zeta Tau Alpha.

"Sorority life in Mary Baldwin," it was explained to early *Themis* readers, "is an active element, though until Zeta Tau Alpha was established, there was only one national sorority there, Beta Sigma Omicron."

The first regular chapter meeting was held in "Room 7, Sky High (the name of one of the buildings) on November 26, 1904. Weekly meetings were continued throughout the few years of the chapter's existence. By choice, the group always remained small, and when ZTA's proposed entrance into the Inter-sorority Conference made charter revocation necessary in 1906, the chapter roll for the two years numbered but nineteen. But the size was ample for the times, and the chapter was considered a strong unit.

In the brief time allotted her, Eta gained a record of dependability, loyalty and capability. Realizing the course that seemed wisest and necessary for the fraternity as a whole, she relinquished her charter with graciousness and understanding. Although in later years it gained that status, at that time Mary Baldwin Seminary was not of collegiate rank and consequently was considered an ineligible field for a National Panhellenic Conference fraternity at the time Zeta Tau Alpha was applying for membership in the Conference. It later became Mary Baldwin College.

THETA: In 1905, in West Virginia, where the white violets grow in profusion, Theta chapter came into being.

On January 22, 1905, ten girls, Laura Ash (Sala), Marie Anderson (Wells), Orpha Burdine (Baumgartner), Florence Cavender (Hammer), Nell Edwards (Ash), Mary Granger, Maude Jennings (Campbell), Katherine Miller (Shepard), Gertrude Phillips and Lillian Smith "banded themselves together to promote a closer friendship." Upsilon Alpha Epsilon was the name they chose and "in order to advance the interests of all concerned they secured a desirable room and held regular meetings." Several informal receptions were given . . . and it was not long before they were a recognized factor among fraternities and students. Many pleasant hours were spent together, but "our main purpose was to gain national life, and the good star which always guided our chapter guided us to Zeta Tau Alpha," they related. There was a story back of that.

When Homer Sala, Sigma Nu, asked Albert Hughes Wilson, inspector of the eastern division of Sigma Nu, to recommend a good fraternity to the new local group at Bethany College,<sup>2</sup> Bethany, West Virginia, Mr. Wilson suggested Zeta Tau Alpha. Mr. Wilson's knowledge of Zeta Tau Alpha was gained from Grace



## THETA'S FOUNDERS

### *Chapter Roll*

*Seniors:* Katherine Miller (Sheppard), Mary Granger.

*Juniors:* Gertrude Phillips, Marie Anderson (Wells), Nell Edwards (Ash), Maude Jennings (Campbell).

*Sophomores:* Laura Ash (Sala), Florence Cavender (Hammer).

*Freshmen:* Lillian Smith, Orpha Burdine (Baumgartner).

Jordan (Cook) whom he had met the previous summer. Impressed by his fraternity brother's account of the excellence of Upsilon Alpha Epsilon, he immediately recommended the Bethany girls to Grace Jordan, and thus Theta chapter was started on its way. Homer Sala, who was so deeply interested in the group, married Lillian Ash, its leader.

In selecting a national organization with which to affiliate, an early Theta historian explained, "It was known that Zeta Tau Alpha was one of the youngest national sororities, yet was destined to become one of the strongest, and it is the ambition of every girl to try to come up to the high standard of Zeta Tau Alpha; to urge all on to duty."

The urge "to duty" was heeded. The girls worked industriously. With the preliminaries of petitioning taken care of at once, their petition soon received favorable consideration, and on March 9, 1905, Mary Stuart (Stentz) arrived in Bethany to meet the girls of "Theta-to-be," as she put it. In her own words, when, "on March 31, I received Mrs. Davis' letter asking me to go to Bethany to establish a chapter, my heart leaped with pride at the thought of bringing my first flock into the fold of Greekdom."

She glowingly described the seven-mile trip from Wellsburg to Bethany "over the most beautiful road imaginable. . . . It was a pleasant, brisk Virginia morning, and our road lay over picturesque . . . mountain ways, up hills, and down through glens, across moss-covered bridges and through a natural tunnel, whose entrance was jewelled with hanging icicles. . . .

"Everyone was curious to know what visitor could be disturbing the even tenor of Bethany ways, for our girls had been so secret about my coming that no one except their own circle and the Dean knew anything about it. In half an hour I had met all the girls of the local, and I was not long in deciding that they were excellent material. . . ." Before the day was over she had also met all of Upsilon Alpha Epsilon's friends, "including most of the men of the fraternities and their sister-fraternity girls."

She also found "some brothers already loyal to Zeta Tau Alpha, and almost as eager and enthusiastic as the girls. Two especially, Mr. Sala, Sigma Nu, and Mr. Bartley, Kappa Alpha, I wish to give a vote of thanks for their kind assistance and loyalty to Theta chapter. They gave Upsilon Alpha Epsilon some valuable coaching along fraternity lines, and much is due to their aid and brotherly counsel.

"On the night of the ninth . . . the ceremony of installation was solemnized and ten girls were made sisters." Upsilon Alpha Epsilon's original ten became Theta's charter members.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies "our two loyal and thoughtful brothers, Messrs. Sala and Bartley, had served to us a sumptuous spread which was



doubly enjoyed at that wee hour of the night. And after this we returned to the hall to sweet dreams of sugar plums and 'goats'...."

The installing officer was delighted to find "Theta as much at home and as charming in the social side of life as in the solemn ceremonies of the fraternity." Indeed, installation's "social events . . . were much enjoyed. Mrs. Bourne, dean of women, served tea on the afternoon of March 11 . . . in honor of Mary Stuart and Theta. On March 17, the Alpha Xi Deltas entertained the faculty and

To the High Officers and Chapters  
of Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority,

Greeting; We, the undersigned students of Bethany College, wishing to enjoy the benefits of closer association and to become affiliated with the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority, do hereby petition you to grant us a charter and to recognize us as a chapter in your organization. The petitioners are congenial and we are confident that a strong and enduring chapter can be established. Strongly believing that the local conditions are favorable, we submit this petition, hoping that you will act upon it affirmatively.

Laura Ash  
Florence Cavendish  
Nell Edwards  
Alpha Burdine  
William Smith  
Marie Grange  
Gertrude Phillips  
Maude Jennings  
Marie V. Anderson  
Katherine E. Miller.

The Formal Document from the Bethany Petitioners

Greek fraternities at the Heights" in honor of the new chapter. "We spent a very delightful evening," they wrote, "and with what enthusiasm we joined in the fraternity songs, since we were now true Greeks! The dining room was beautifully decorated with the colors of Alpha Xi Delta and Zeta Tau Alpha—double blue and gold and the turquoise and gray, and a dainty menu was served."

The years were to prove the accuracy of Mary Stuart's prediction "that Theta chapter in every sense will be a help and strength to our fraternity. A more loyal and enthusiastic company of girls could not have been found in a local, and the beautiful way in which Zeta Tau Alpha so entirely absorbed Upsilon Alpha Epsilon promises us loyal sisters to the end."

Thus Theta received a strong start, for the original ten members were outstanding students. They reported in *Themis* that "we are now comfortably located in our fraternity room at the Ranch," and when Mary Stuart (Stentz) left, there had been established a distinguished chapter in West Virginia.

IOTA: The alertness and industry of the early Zetas was evident in the move, three years after the installation of Original Beta, to place another chapter in Richmond.

In May, 1905, *Themis* readers were told that "in 1899, the trustees [of Richmond College] decided to admit the daughters of the professors of the college, and from this small beginning the number of young women students has slowly but steadily grown until now twenty are enrolled." Kappa Alpha, Kappa Sigma, Phi Gamma Delta, Pi Kappa Alpha, Phi Kappa Sigma and Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternities had flourishing chapters there. "To Zeta Tau Alpha belongs the honor of establishing the first girls' fraternity in this, the largest college of the 'Queen City of the South,'" *Themis* announced. Zeta pioneered in a coeducational college at which the enrollment was ninety per cent men, and material was scarce because women were few. One gathers that from the first, women's groups were regarded with a decided lack of enthusiasm on the part of the college administration.

The story runs that "early in the session of 1904-1905, when it was found that 'twenty representative young women of Virginia had matriculated' at the college, the establishment of a chapter of a national organization came under consideration."

"There are only five of us," Iota told the eager little Zeta world of that day, "but we are bound together by bonds other than fraternity vows, being united in common aims and ambitions. Most of us have been together for years and in fact two or three were companions in the old days of 'Mother Goose.' Thus it is natural that we who have been so closely allied from childhood, should desire

this closer bond in college life. We have adopted for our chapter motto: 'Inter se amamus,' which we think best expresses our firm affection for each other."

Selected with great care were the five who petitioned: Virginia Pelham Binford (Howard), Julia Peachy Harrison, Maria Edgeworth Bristow, Mary Tyler (Smith) and Lorena Boyd Mason. Through Josephine McLeod, Delta, a friend of one of the five, Zeta Tau Alpha became their choice of a national.

Of Iota's installation Lillian Baird wrote,

After a long day and night ride, I arrived in Richmond, where I found Josephine McLeod . . . waiting for me, and we went at once to her home. . . . Josephine had been chief counselor for the petitioning chapter and she had much to say in praise of the girls. . . . After I met them I found how true her praises were.

On Friday morning one of the Zeta Tau Alphas-to-be came to call and later we went out to inspect the college. Two Kappa Alphas were interested in piloting us in our journey. . . . Friday night, Olive Hinman, one of the Grand Chapter girls who was to help in the installation, arrived from Farmville. . . .

Saturday morning the girls called for us and we drove over the beautiful old city of Richmond. . . . That afternoon Josephine entertained all Zeta Tau Alphas, both present and future, there being present also representatives from each men's fraternity of Richmond College. The rooms were beautifully decorated with the gray and blue of Zeta Tau Alpha and with pennants. . . . Here for the first time I met all of the petitioning girls.

Initiation took place March 11, 1905, at the home of Julia Peachy Harrison, 104 North Monroe Street, Richmond. Lillian Baird (Bradley) was assisted by the Grand Historian, Olive Hinman, and Josephine McLeod, to whom the chapter owed its existence.

"After the Saturday installation a banquet was served at the home of Peachy Harrison, which we all pronounced not only a banquet but a howling success," Lillian Baird told *Themis* readers. "Sunday was the day for church-going and thanksgiving and also for growing to know our goats better." The last social event was Monday night's "heart party," tendered the new chapter by the college men in the Phi Gamma Delta halls, to show, as they said, that they were conscious of the honor Zeta Tau Alpha had done them in coming among them."

While the administration lacked enthusiasm for the new women's group, it was evident that the men of the college did not. Said *The Collegian*:

Certainly no more interesting event nor one more enjoyed by those fortunate enough to be invited to participate, has ever occurred at Richmond College, than the installation of Iota chapter of the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority, and the social features incident to it.

From our knowledge of the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority and the high standard required for membership, we congratulate the new chapter most heartily; and from our even more accurate and intimate knowledge of the personnel of the new chapter, we congratulate the sorority with equal heartiness upon this, its latest acquisition. Speaking not only for the fraternity men, but for all the men in college, we extend a hearty and enthusiastic welcome to the new sorority, and promise to receive them with genuine old-fashioned Virginia hospitality.





#### IOTA'S CHARTER MEMBERS

*From left to right: Virginia Binford (Howard), Lorena Boyd Mason, Julia Peachy Harrison, Marie Bristow, and Mary Tyler (Smith).*

This was the era of pennants. "On March 17," Grace Jordan wrote editorially in *Themis*, "A post-card gaily decorated with a red-and-blue poster girl waving a Richmond pennant announced to us that another new star had been added to the constellation of Zeta Tau Alpha. . . . Iota chapter, installed on March 11, at Richmond College, Virginia, begins her life upon fields that the masculine fraternity world has considered wholly its own. Iota chapter is the first girls' fraternity established at Richmond where there are six flourishing men's fraternities. . . . If her welcome is not already assured she will not be long in winning an esteemed place among them, for Zeta Tau Alpha has a way of gaining a place at the top."

Meetings had formerly been held in the Harrison home but a chapter room was secured the next year. Eight new members were added by the end of the 1907 college session. By that fall a strong alumnæ chapter was established in Richmond.

But conditions were difficult in this college which was not a woman's world. There were too few women. The scarcity of prospective members became increasingly evident and, as a consequence, general conditions caused Iota to appeal for a revocation of the charter, or until such time as plans for the contemplated greater Richmond College<sup>3</sup> would make Iota's re-establishment possible.

Iota history records that "just three years after its inauguration, Iota gave

up the unequal fight and voluntarily surrendered her charter, deeming that social conditions at Richmond College made life precarious for a fraternity which aimed as high as Zeta Tau Alpha. Where men were ninety per cent in the ascendancy, material became too scarce."

Thus, with the plan of eventual reinstatement, the charter was withdrawn by the 1908 convention. One attempt to revive Iota, which failed because of the hostility of the president of the college, was reported at the 1912 convention.

BETA: The scene shifted next to Judson College, Marion, Alabama, in the southerly region of the Blue Ridge mountains. Founded in 1838 and christened the Judson Female Institute, it had the distinction of being the oldest Baptist college for women in the world and was one of the few colleges not closed during the dark days of the War Between the States. Its students came from all parts of the United States and some foreign countries.

In this setting Zeta Sigma was organized in the early years of the twentieth century with the assistance of Dr. Robert G. Patrick, who was Judson's president<sup>4</sup> from 1897 to 1913.

In a letter written December 24, 1904, to Bruce Houston Davis by the "Zeta Sigma Sorority," they explained that "the Zeta Sigma Sorority was the outcome on the part of eight girls to promote congeniality among themselves. It was not publicly known until October 26, 1902."

In Sarah Bowen's words:

The Zeta Sigma sorority was the outcome of the desire on the part of eight girls to bind themselves together in order to promote a closer friendship and to assist, by this heart union, in their search for the higher friendship and a closer tie of love.

On the front verandah of the Judson, Monday afternoon, October 26, 1902, this organization was decided upon and immediately after the decision the eight girls repaired to the president's office to obtain permission to organize a sorority. This, then, was the beginning of Zeta Sigma—a sisterhood having for its fundamental principle love, love for its members and loving sympathy for those less fortunate than themselves.

The president assented and the girls threw themselves enthusiastically into organizing their group.

By the first of November, the new sorority had moved into the room which was to be theirs for the next three years. Here they held meetings regularly on each Monday and here the Zeta Sigma girls passed the happiest hours of their school life. By the end of the first year the sorority was firmly established, and had a steady growth through the three years of its existence.

At first there was no idea of establishing other chapters nor of petitioning a national sorority, but within this last year a desire to become Zeta Tau Alphas has grown steadily and firmly. . . .

Apparently with a common impulse, Zeta Sigma and R.O.F., the only other

secret society on the campus, petitioned nationals the same year. Kappa Delta absorbed R.O.F. a few weeks before Zeta Tau Alpha granted a charter to Zeta Sigma on March 16, 1905.<sup>5</sup>

The location of Marion presented a problem to that early-day Grand Chapter. Even Zeta, the nearest chapter, seemed far distant in view of the transporta-



ZETA SIGMA'S PICTURE IN THE JUDSON ANNUAL

tion difficulties of the times. Hence the installation was made by Lollie Belle Hardwick (Stuart), a Delta alumna appointed by Grand Chapter, and two members of Zeta Sigma, Mary Williams (Frazer) and Marietta Aldridge (Ezelle).

The charter members were: Marietta Aldridge (Ezelle), Sarah Frances Bowen (Grayson),<sup>6</sup> Ollie Lou Brown (Venting), Asenath Collier (Kinsey), Helen Collier, Marie Collier (Scruggs), Jane Cordill (Grunewald), Patti Davis (Riley), Katherine Farrior (Yancey), Mattie Knight (James), Virginia Hodges (Mercer),



Elizabeth McDonald (Clark), Louise McFaddin (Anderson), Kate Sears (Barnes), Fronie Williams (Watson) and Mary Williams (Frazer). The first initiate after the installation was Marjorie Bellamy and the second was Mary Louise Patrick, one of Beta's delegates to the 1906 convention. In 1907, Ethel Cruse (Mouton) was received as a transfer from Kappa, while her sister, Bertha



#### BETA'S CHARTER MEMBERS

*First row (bottom):* Aseneth Collier (Kinsey), Marietta Aldridge (Ezelle), Marie Collier (Scruggs), Katherine Farrior (Yancey), Kate Sears (Barnes). *Second row:* Ollie Lou Brown (Venting), Helen Collier, Virginia Hodges (Mercer), Fronie Williams (Watson). *Third row:* Elizabeth McDonald (Clark), Jane Cordill (Grunewald), Mattie Knight (James). *Fourth row (top):* Patti Davis (Riley), Sara Bowen (Grayson).

Cruse (Gardner), was initiated the next year. During the early years many of the alumnæ were initiated. Each group had a chapter room in one of the college buildings.

For fourteen years Beta prospered, becoming a highly regarded, strong chapter that contributed much to the fraternity. Beta was always commended at conventions for promptness and accuracy in fulfilling fraternity obligations. Its record was perfect. Recognition of alumnæ service by honor ring awards was suggested by Beta. It was a progressive and constructive chapter.

But the same administrative prejudice against fraternities which cost Zeta Tau Alpha other fine early chapters, presented itself here.

"We have a dark shadow hanging over us," Beta wrote in the March, 1919, issue of *Themis*. "This may be the last year that Beta chapter will be in existence since our president . . . seems to be against us and wants fraternities out of the college. We have offered several plans to him but none has met with his approval so far. And after several months of thought he will give us his final decision tomorrow."

Since Judson was controlled by the Baptist convention, certain restrictions always existed in regard to the types of social affairs permitted. Also there was always a rather strong feeling of disfavor on the part of certain trustees and others influential in the denomination, regarding fraternities. Although the groups always did everything possible to prevent any justification for the prejudice against them, the pressure of the trustees became so strong that in January, 1919, the president, Dr. Paul V. Bomar, called the groups together and persuaded them to agree to initiate no new members.

Through the May, 1919, issue of *Themis*, Beta told the fraternity that "just before pledge day, our president called local Panhellenic to him and stated his reasons for desiring the discontinuance of fraternal activities." That spring ended the organized existence of fraternities at Judson. Some of Beta's members went to other colleges the following year, but many returned to graduate. In all, Beta initiated 146 members before *finis* was written to the chapter.

Thus both of Zeta's Beta chapters—the short-lived Original Beta and the Judson group, upon whom was bestowed the designation of the extinct first Beta chapter—suffered extinction because of administrative disapproval of fraternities.

KAPPA: The year 1906 saw Zeta Tau Alpha's entrance into the vast state of Texas in which, with the years, the fraternity was to establish a stronghold. Again, the personal efforts of one member were responsible for a new chapter.

When May Bolinger (Orgain), Epsilon, went to the University of Texas from her own flourishing chapter at the University of Arkansas, she found a student body of nearly 2,000, and only four women's fraternities on the campus: Pi Beta Phi, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Chi Omega and Kappa Alpha Theta. The university at Austin was twenty-two years old, and there was a wealth of room and opportunity for fraternities. Fresh from her own prosperous chapter, May missed the ties and friendships. Soon she was wishing that "there could be other girls wearing the badge of Zeta Tau Alpha at Texas."

She confided her hopes for a chapter to Mrs. Neil Carothers, hostess of the Women's Building. Mrs. Carothers had a suggestion. If May Bolinger could

get May Hopkins, a prominent senior, to undertake the project, success would be assured. So, via a devious route, it was arranged for the promising senior to have luncheon with May Bolinger and Sallie McDonald (Hutton) and Elizabeth McDonald (Clark). When Mrs. Carothers extended the invitation she added that "I want to talk business with you." Since curious male collegians had broken window panes in their eagerness to get a glimpse of the "baby party" given the night before by the Woman's Athletic Association, its president, May



**FIVE EARLY KAPPAS POSE FOR A SNAPSHOT**

*Left to right: Louie Davis (Lacy), Agnes Kirkland (Hall),  
May Bolinger (Orgain), Hattie Mathee, May Agness Hopkins.*

Hopkins, inferred that the Association was to be asked to replace the broken panes, so her mood was far from social when she set forth for the luncheon engagement, "thinking up things to say all the way." But the subject was Zeta, not window panes.

The girl chosen to be the key member of the new chapter held an honorary scholarship in zoology, was captain of the basketball team, president of the Woman's Athletic Association and the Sidney Lanier Literary Society, a Y.W.C.A. cabinet member and vice-president of the senior class—"rich in good works," said the *Cactus*, the annual publication. She was a vital force in campus affairs when May Bolinger called upon her to assist in the organization of a new



fraternity. Much persuasion and a great deal of walking around and around the "periph" took place before May Hopkins consented to organize, with May Bolinger, a group to petition Zeta Tau Alpha. But she entertained the mental reservation that since she was leaving the university that year, she could "leave . . . the responsibilities with the group."

Then followed the selection of the eight members who joined the little group, but whom everyone else wanted, too. Elizabeth Fromme (Gardner) was considered practically pledged to another fraternity which was rushing her determinedly. Everyone wanted Margaret Levy (Feuille), but because of parental objections she could not pledge until her sophomore year. Tact and persistence won Judge Levy's consent via a long-distance call. There was Nannie Lea Caldwell (Glascock) who became a member of the botany faculty the next year, and who "could be depended upon to decorate a banquet table more attractively than anyone else." There were Louie Davis (Lacy), a transfer from Georgia Wesleyan (where she was a pledge of the Adelphean Society which later became Alpha Delta Pi), "a leader in social affairs, handsome, charming"; Milda Connolly (Smith), "the cutest girl in the world, clever . . . always wearing the latest and most striking thing fashion afforded"; Hattie Mathee, "a girl of remarkable executive ability and personality"; Agnes Kirkland (Hall), vice-president of the Student Council who later became a member of the faculty. Elizabeth Fromme was described as "quiet and dignified, with the low-toned musical voice that bespeaks the gentle-woman." Margaret Levy (Feuille), literary editor of the *Cactus*, was "a brilliant scholar" and associate editor of the university magazine. Finally, there was May Hopkins, "with her flashing dark eyes and compelling personality."

The handpicked eight made up a choice group that constituted a power house of ability, calibre and potentialities. Each girl had already achieved distinction in some line. Kappa's wagon was hitched to the proverbial star.

May Bolinger did her work well. The charter was duly granted and on May 7, 1906, she had the pleasure of installing Kappa chapter, assisted by May Hopkins. "At that time," it was explained, "there were only eight chapters of Zeta Tau Alpha, and a slim treasury . . . so no national officer was sent to install Kappa." Instead, May Bolinger received the instructions for the installation and initiation. Finding that more than one person was needed, she shared the secrets with May Hopkins ahead of time, and pressed her into service.

Although the plan was kept secret, news leaked out. Rumors of a new Greek-letter group were rife, as were conjectures as to whom it would include. May Hopkins' name was always disclaimed, because of the belief that she would "never be a fraternity woman." But immediately after the installation, while the group was enjoying "dainty refreshments . . . and discussing future plans . . .



#### KAPPA'S FIRST PICTURE IN THEMIS

*From left to right:* Nannie Lea Caldwell (Glascok), Louie Davis (Lacy), Agnes Kirkland (Hall), Milda Connolly (Smith), Ethel Cruse (Mouton), Margaret Levy (Feuille), May Agness Hopkins, Hattie Mathee, Elizabeth Fromme (Gardner), Caroline Goeth (Etmyre), Louise Lawrence (McGregor), Willie Florence Kimbrough, Mary Kimbrough (Hardie), Lorena Brown (Long), Alma Rather (Duncalf), Anita Geoth (Graham), Carrie Reaves, Irma Mathee (Coldwell).

The first formal picture of Kappa chapter, showing the charter members and the first pledge after installation, may be formed by counting the first nine members from left to right. This group comprises a separate picture treasured by early members as the charter picture of Kappa.

the doorbell rang and Sister Hopkins returned with a box of beautiful carnations in which was enclosed the card of Linda Spence, a Kappa Alpha Theta, bearing the message, 'Congratulations, love and best wishes from another Greek.' So someone knew.

There was a furor of excitement when the Zetas appeared with their shining new badges the next morning. "The cordial manner in which we were received . . . is indelibly stamped upon the mind of each Kappa member," May Bolinger wrote. "Congratulations were showered upon us, and we were most heartily and warmly welcomed. Pi Beta Phi gave a beautiful reception at their chapter house in our honor. Our colors were artistically arranged in every room, and we thoroughly enjoyed this, our first public recognition. Another pleasant social event of our installation was an evening given in our honor by Kappa Kappa Gamma." Kappa Alpha Theta gave a tea while Chi Omega, unable to entertain, sent "a beautiful pennant, with a card of congratulations." Then one afternoon Elizabeth Fromme entertained the new members.

May Bolinger, who started the group, wrote the account of Kappa's installation for the November, 1906, issue of *Themis*. In her words:

It would be impossible to describe the happiness experienced by every girl in the Kappa chapter of the Zeta Tau Alpha, when the telegram was received from our Grand President, stating that a charter had been granted. I, naturally, took the deepest interest in this petitioning chapter. In the first place I felt that Zeta Tau Alpha would be strengthened and benefited by having a strong chapter such as I thought this, in the University of Texas, would be. Then, having been in the University for several months, and having been closely and intimately associated with these girls, I found them to be an exceptionally fine group in every way. I had learned to love them, and wanted them so much to be Zeta Tau Alphas, that I almost felt myself one of this local, knocking for admittance into our loved fraternity. Although I felt that girls so worthy and deserving would not be rejected, I experienced that same uncertain feeling that had once been mine when our local Delta Phi, at the University of Arkansas, sent in its petition to the Grand Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha.

I think I have never seen such a happy crowd of girls as we were, when all our doubts were happily settled, and we began planning for the installation to take place at once. On Monday night, we were to meet at May Hopkins' home. We had worked quietly and systematically all the way through, and I think very few suspected our plans. However, so full of enthusiasm were we when at sundown we started across the campus from the Woman's Building, that it was with difficulty we controlled our feelings. While on the way, we forced ourselves to talk of other things than those which concerned us most, lest some outburst of feeling proclaim to others our plans before we wished them known.

We found that the home of May Hopkins had been turned over to us for the night. The quiet of the house, and the suspense of those eight girls, waiting for the doors of an unknown world to open for them, gave me an understanding of the seriousness of my work. . . . The work of Kappa's installation was solemnly and quietly gone through; the girls were brought into the bond, and became truly our sisters in Zeta Tau Alpha.

With charter members who were already factors on the campus, Kappa chap-



ter was ready to take her place immediately at Texas. Thus was launched the first powerful link in the Texas Zeta chain.

LAMBDA: In 1903, "the days of rules," when "feasts were about the biggest dissipation the Annex girls enjoyed," Beta Psi, the forerunner of Lambda chapter, came into existence.

In that year, a group of girls "wishing to add spice to the sweets of their friendship," conceived the idea of organizing a secret club at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas. Men's fraternities were already there but there were no similar organizations for women. In fact, there was supposed to be an unwritten rule against them. But in spite of this, the girls called their club a sorority and gave it a Greek name—Beta Psi, although they asserted that they knew no more of sororities than of Greek. And of the latter they knew nothing.

"The character  $\Psi$  looked cryptic and was Greek to us, and we thought B looked and sounded well with it. That was all the meaning B $\Psi$  had in the beginning, but how much it grew to mean to those of us who realized our hope when Beta Psi became Zeta Tau Alpha!" a member said later. In its original purpose of "mirth-making and feasting, we succeeded to the fullest degree, but Beta Psi became so dear to us that we soon desired and resolved to perpetuate and to dignify it."

With this change of heart and purpose, by the second year, the organization was well established. Despite their professed lack of information regarding organization and procedure, they developed real fraternity spirit. As their purpose became more serious, they considered a national charter. Accordingly, they dignified their ritual and initiation service, and adopted a constitution and a set of by-laws.

The members listed in the November, 1906, *Themis*, which contained the account of Lambda's installation, were Bess Davis (Banks)—the girl who named Beta Psi and gave the group the Greek motto meaning "Faithful Women"—Vera and Isla Kinsolving, Lounette Jackson, Louise Gibson, Elize Smith and Berta Cobb.

However, some consider the second period just delineated, when the group achieved actual organization, to be of such importance that the members in the group at that time must be regarded virtually as being the real founders of Lambda chapter. This view adds the names of Edith Branson, Rosina Nelson (Hughes), Elva Jenkins, Constance Harlan (Shaw) and Flora Garvin to those already given.

Beta Psi history records that "the first girl to get a rush was Rose Nelson (Hughes)," who was eagerly sought by the other groups on the campus by that time. Next came Sunshine Dickinson "who got the biggest rush. To have her

We, the undersigned, hereby petition the Grand Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha fraternity for admission and for a charter of membership in the national organization.

Signed

|               |                            |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| Bess Whittle. | Louise Gibson, Pres. B. P. |
| Weta Jackson. | Rose Nelson, Sec.          |
| Jean Whittle. | Elizabeth Hardy, Treas.    |
|               | Rosie Gammill              |
|               | Myrtle Whittle             |
|               | Jean Mae Nelms             |
|               | Pauline Clark              |
|               | Myrtice Nelms.             |
|               | Effie Robinson             |
|               | Roberta Putnam             |
|               | Elizabeth Harlan           |
|               | Kate Fiser                 |
|               | Lalla Branson.             |
|               | Rannie Collier             |
|               | Allie Branson.             |

#### BETA PSI PETITIONS GRAND CHAPTER

one of us was a triumph," they declared, and the day she pledged they serenaded their losing rival with the song, 'There is Sunshine in our Frat Today.' Again, it was permissible to make one's rival green with envy. And it was a period in which the later-tabooed term "frat" was in general and enthusiastic use.

Georgetown being near Austin, in February, 1906, Beta Psi was inspected by May Bolinger (Orgain), Epsilon, and on May 31, 1906, shortly after the installation of Kappa, she installed Lambda chapter. The charter members were: Elizabeth Hardy, Bess Whittle (Trigg), Allie Barcus, Pauline Clark (Knighten), Jean Whittle (Ayres), Louise Gibson, Rosina Nelson (Hughes), Rannie Collier (Miles), Myrtice Nelms, Lalla Branson, Blossom (Martha Roberta) Putnam (Sweatt), Irene Gammill (Harris), Edith Branson, Hazel Whittle (Bowie), Katherine Fiser (Wilson), Sunshine Dickinson (Ryman), Bess Bailey





(Summers), Lena Mae Nelms (Houze), Ena Dent and Clara Wellborn. Weta Jackson (Miller), who was ill at that time, was initiated later.

That fall, *Themis* carried May Bolinger's account of Lambda's installation and inspection:

Upon receiving a letter from our Grand President asking that I go to Georgetown to investigate the standing and worth of Beta Psi in regard to their obtaining a charter from Zeta Tau Alpha, and receiving a cordial invitation from the petitioning chapter, I availed myself of this privilege.

Upon my arrival I was met by Jean Whittle, a member of Beta Psi, and we went immediately to the Annex, the girls' dormitory, where most of the girls in the local lived. Soon after supper the town girls of the petitioning chapter came to meet me, and we went to the chapter room, where we became better acquainted. . . . My work as inspector proved indeed pleasant in the evening, for a more enthusiastic chapter I have seldom seen. Their beautiful chapter room, in its artistic and beautiful arrangement, bespoke the interest and love these girls felt for their local, and promised good work as a chapter of our order.

The next morning I inspected the University and was glad to find that this institution met with my approval in being well equipped, and in having a curriculum of high rank. The girls seemed good students, and I felt that I could heartily recommend them. . . . On my return to Austin, my review of Beta Psi . . . material was very favorable.

She was very happy when she received the "charter granted" wire from Mrs. Davis, and she

made hasty preparations for another trip to Georgetown. Three of the girls met me at the train on my arrival, and a joyful meeting it was, since we knew we were soon to be sisters in Zeta Tau Alpha. I was invited to a Kappa Sigma banquet that night, which was a most delightful affair, and I was greatly pleased to hear the most complimentary remarks spoken of the Beta Psi local, which tended to confirm the good opinion I had formed of them.

Next morning, May 31, at an early hour all members of Beta Psi assembled in the chapter room ready to begin work. Every girl was filled with enthusiasm at the thoughts of so soon realizing her great ambition. The impressive ceremonies of Zeta Tau Alpha were solemnized, and twenty more girls came into our fold under the name of Lambda chapter.

Commencement interfered with any social events that might have taken place. A great many students had gone home already, and others were leaving on every train, since this was only the day before Commencement. For us good-bye time had come and it was with sad hearts that we thought of being separated, when each one felt that we had been united so recently.

And now there were two Zeta chapters in Texas.

## Supplementary Notes

1. Established in 1842, in Staunton, Virginia, in the lovely Shenandoah Valley, the Augusta Female Seminary was "under Presbyterian control." Growth was slow during the first twenty years. When the Civil War laid its detaining hand on educational growth in the South its head, Miss Mary Baldwin, assisted by her close friend, Miss Agnes McClung, not only managed survival for the institution but, it "increased in numbers and fame." In 1895-1896, its name was changed to Mary Baldwin Seminary in honor of Miss Baldwin's thirty-four years of "unparalleled success" as the principal.
2. Bethany College was the birthplace of Delta Tau Delta.
3. Richmond College later merged with Westhampton College, and thus became a part of the University of Richmond. With fourteen students, it was founded in 1832 by the Baptists of Virginia who called it the Virginia Baptist Seminary. The name was changed to Richmond College in 1840. Following the outbreak of war, activities were suspended in 1861. During the next four years everything in the way of endowments, library and scientific apparatus was swept away and many were the prominent alumni "against whose names the fatal asterisk of death was set." In 1866 the college was reorganized with little more than the spacious campus and a few badly defaced buildings. By 1905 the enrollment was 250 students, taught by sixteen professors.
4. Five daughters of Judson presidents were members of Beta: Mary L. Patrick, Hellen Patrick (Cruse), Harriet Bomar (Ellis), Mary Bomar (Wallace) and Louisa Bomar (Green).
5. In 1906, after Phi Mu Gamma was installed, an Intersorority League was formed. In later years, Alpha Delta Pi and Phi Mu came on the Judson campus.
6. The marriage of Sarah Frances Bowen to Claude A. Grayson, which took place in the college parlors immediately after her graduation in 1905, was "the most exciting event of the spring."
7. There was a story back of Lambda's first *Themis* picture. There were very few evening gowns in the chapter that year and if the picture is observed closely it will be noticed that with the exception of three or four, the same dress is worn by each girl. The popular dress belonged to Rose Nelson (Hughes).

## Conventions

THE FORERUNNER of all Zeta Tau Alpha conventions was the first reunion held May 20, 1901, in the Library of the State Normal School, Farmville, Virginia.

Yearly reunions had been planned from the days of founding, but this meeting was the first one that was definitely organized. Preparatory accounts appeared in the minutes of Alpha chapter as early as February 15, 1901. Nettie Morton (Scott), chairman of the reunion committee, was assisted by Mattie Henderson (Kelly), Mary Campbell Jones (Batte), Pearl Hundley (Ware), and Frances Yancey Smith. The reunion was largely social.

Maud Jones Horner sketched the life of the organization, "dwelling particularly on the beginning of the sorority." Of the status in 1901 she said, "This makes the third year that we have had our sorority in the school, and let us see what has been done in that time.

"First, we have a ritual, which I dare say, would compare favorably with the ritual of any other sorority. (I regret to say, however, that we have not yet succeeded in procuring our floor diagrams). Our sorority is well equipped for one so young. We cannot hope to get everything at once. Among the other property that we have in our possession I would mention a chapter Bible, the gift of one of our members, a seal, which was given us by one of our dearest brothers, and the long-wished-for regalia which so becomingly adorns our officers tonight.

"We have not made the progress that we would like to have made in establishing chapters of Zeta Tau Alpha in other schools. However, we have not lost hope, but are still working vigorously toward that end and expect yet to accomplish greater things.

"But let us suppose for an instant that we prove unsuccessful in this one respect and that Zeta Tau Alpha remains always a local organization. Should we then say that our sorority has been a failure? No, a thousand times, no! I can hear this answer come from every Zeta Tau Alpha who is here tonight, as well as from each of those who, I regret so much, cannot be with us at this happy occasion.

"My sisters, how could Zeta Tau Alpha be a failure when it has been bound together with the strongest ties of friendship and love in the hearts and lives of





HOSTESSES TO THE FIRST REUNION. "Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority," in June, 1902, said the Normal annual. Top row: Pearl Garnett Hundley (Ware), Edith Duvall (Reed), and Mary Frayser (McGehee). Middle row: Nettie Morton (Scott) and Susie Warner (Maddox). Third row: Gertrude Campbell (Thraves), Lila DuVal, and Claudia Perkins (Taylor).

twenty-five girls? And how sweet it is to remember that these cords will not be broken when our school days end, but although we may be separated and scattered far and wide, yet let us hope that they may ever grow stronger and stronger until we unite once more around the throne of our Great Taskmaster."

Others on the program were Josephine Goodwin (Parsons), Jessie Whitmore (Booker) and Grace Elcan (Garnett). Then, as was the continuing custom, a banquet was the concluding feature.

### First National Convention

But Zeta Tau Alpha was not to remain a "local organization." Two years after the first reunion which featured Maud Jones's speech, the first national convention—a full-blown conclave—was held in Farmville, Virginia, June 6-10, 1903, with Alpha chapter entertaining. The meetings were held in the Main Building of the State Normal School where rooms, reserved for the occasion, were appropriately decorated in the colors of the fraternity.

This important early convention firmly established the status of the Arch Chapter that had come into existence in September, 1902, when Mrs. Davis, during a visit to Farmville, met with Alpha members and carried out the constitutional provision for its formation.

Maud Jones Horner, President, called the convention to order and "welcomed the delegates and visitors in a truly Virginian manner." Officers present were: President, Maud Jones Horner; Vice-President, Frances Y. Smith; Secretary-Treasurer, Bruce Houston Davis, and the two Undergraduate Members of Arch Chapter, Jessie Whitmore Booker and Mary Frayser McGehee—all from Alpha chapter.

Time proved that vision and a sense of the practical marked this convention. The revision of the constitution and by-laws and ritual, as submitted by Bruce Davis, was accepted. The legislative power of the fraternity was definitely vested in convention, while the executive power was delegated to a new Grand Chapter which superseded the former, more limited, Arch Chapter. Convention was defined as being composed of the governing officers and two delegates from each chapter. Grand Chapter was to be composed of five members, who were to be elected by convention. The Finance Committee, destined in this form to serve the fraternity for many years, came into being. This committee (to oversee finances) was composed of three members, the President, Secretary and Treasurer. The charter design, presented by Mrs. Davis, was officially accepted. At that time charters could be granted upon a four-fifths vote of Grand Chapter.

Recognizing the importance of an official publication which would serve as the mouthpiece of the ambitious young organization, the convention minutes record, progressively, that "the conditions and prospects of both public and private publications were discussed and funds were laid aside for necessary



printing to be done this year. The name of our patron goddess, Themis, was given to the official publication." Thus was Zeta Tau Alpha's magazine born.

Generations of members who assumed that Zeta Tau Alpha's use of and preference for the word *fraternity* stemmed from the fact that the charter bore that designation, find a different story told in the minutes of this first convention. As a matter of fact, the word *fraternity* was never adopted until this meeting, when the members assembled decided that "although we were chartered

by the legislature of Virginia as the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority, we shall henceforth be known as the Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity, thus distinguishing ourselves from the sisterhoods organized in connection with men's fraternities, called sororities." Reiteration of this decision at the next national convention indicated that the early Zetas felt strongly on the subject and meant to get the situation under control. This, then, was actually the beginning of Zeta Tau Alpha's permanent use of the word *fraternity* instead of *sorority*, and the official basis for the terminology.



**WHERE THE FIRST CONVENTION WAS HELD.** The shrubbery indicates the former location of the old Library and the four pillars are in front of the room in which the fraternity's first reunion was held.

secret societies to which Zeta Tau Alphas might belong were designated and limited.

The invitation of Delta chapter to hold the next convention in Lynchburg, was accepted.

With the exception of Mary Frayser McGehee, who by graduation became ineligible as an undergraduate Grand Chapter member, the present officers were re-elected to carry on their work which was so admirably begun and marked by

The age limit of initiates was discussed. At that time a candidate for initiation had to be at least fifteen years of age. Ribbon,<sup>1</sup> or



such foresight and determination. Maude Alexander (Janney), of Delta, was the newly-elected Undergraduate Member.

The social side of convention included "an elaborate banquet in the evening (Saturday) which afforded the delegates and visiting girls a most pleasant event, ever to be remembered. The decorations, ferns, and menu cards conveyed a truly Zeta Tau Alpha spirit. Covers were laid for twenty-two and the banquet was presided over by Mrs. Walker Scott (Nettie Morton), then the 'latest Zeta Tau Alpha bride.'"

### Second National Convention

The second convention, held June 9-11, 1904, had an interesting and charming setting—unusual in that it was the only national convention ever held in a private home. When a "serious outbreak of smallpox" in Lynchburg made necessary an abrupt change in the plans of the hostess chapter, the spacious home of Mary Stuart (Stentz), Delta, in Cleveland, Tennessee, was graciously offered. Southern hospitality made the meeting a delightful one. Actions taken made it a memorable one.

"On account of its convenient location, Cleveland, Tennessee, was considered in lieu of Lynchburg when Sister Mary Stuart wrote that the palatial home of her parents was open for accommodation of all who might attend, and that the only condition imposed by 'Father' Stuart—was that he be permitted to plan and help execute some of the diversions—then of course Cleveland was chosen," *Themis* explained editorially in June, 1904.

In the absence of the Grand President, Maud Jones (Horner), who was to be married on June 29, and was thus prevented from attending a convention that came so close to her wedding date, the meeting was called to order by Maude Alexander (Janney), then Vice-President. Other officers of Grand Chapter who were prevented from attending were Frances Yancey Smith and Jessie Whitmore (Booker). Official delegates were: Clair Woodruff (Bugg), Alpha; Lollie Belle Hardwick (Stuart) and Laura McMillan (Wagner), Delta; Emma Byrnes (Barnes), Epsilon. Gamma was unrepresented. Mary Stuart (Stentz) was appointed permanent convention chairman, and Katherine Martin (Dart) was chosen marshal. These last two names constituted the visitors' list for, delightful as the location was, many members who planned to go to Lynchburg found it impossible to make the trip to Cleveland.

Despite the somewhat limited attendance, the meeting accomplished a number of things of fundamental importance. The revised ritual and constitution presented by Bruce Houston Davis was accepted and a general form of chapter by-laws was passed. Interesting amendments to the constitution included specific definition of the duties of the Grand Historian, an office which was added at that time. She was "to keep accurate and faithful record of the



THE FIRST HOSTESSES TO A NATIONAL CONVENTION. Alpha Chapter in 1903. Reading from left to right: Elizabeth King (Sebrell), Grace Adams, Janie May Crute (Traywick), Edith Duvall (Reed), Mary Frayser (McGehee), Lila DuVal, Nora White, Claudia Perkins (Taylor), Julia Palmer (Taylor), Clair Woodruff (Bugg), Jessie Whitmore (Booker), Laura Carter (Hundley), Georgia Miller (Butler), Carrie Kyle (Baldwin).

general history of the fraternity, including histories of the active chapters, this history to be read every two years at convention. In connection with her work as Historian she is to keep in touch with the active chapters and report to the President."

The offices of Judge and Vice-President were combined, and possibly the beginning of alumnae work with the Vice-President in charge (which later evolved for a time) had its inception in this early ruling that "in connection with her judicial work the Vice-President will keep accurate records of the alumnae as far as possible and report at each convention." This officer had interesting duties. She was the court of appeals for decisions concerning questions bearing on the laws of the fraternity, that is, strictly legal matters. She was the legal representative of the fraternity and her decisions, with the approval of Grand Chapter, were final.

Publication dates for *Themis* were fixed for the months of November, January and May. A cover design of gray with blue lettering was specified. For the first time the separate office of Editor was created and given a place on Grand Chapter. Convention ruled that each initiate and active member be required to subscribe to *Themis*, and to own a badge. The magazine was getting closer to reality.

The petitioning group at the University of Tennessee was granted a charter and foreign extension, evidently anticipated, was arranged for with the provision that "if occasion presents to enter foreign fields, an appeal can be made to Grand and active chapters."

The end of Gamma chapter was foreshadowed with the necessity of placing the chapter on probation for one year. Ribbon societies, still troublesome, again drew earnest discussion with the subsequent ruling that no Zeta be allowed to join "any other secret society which is not musical, literary, or athletic."

Bruce Houston Davis rose to the presidency at this convention, with the following supporting officers: Vice-President, Maude Alexander (Janney); Secretary-Treasurer, Mary Stuart (Stentz); Historian, Olive Hinman; Editor, Grace Jordon (Cook).

The social side of convention drew fascinating word sketches from the pens of early writers. "It was an ideal home for the fraternity house party, with its wide, cool halls, broad verandahs, and smooth, sloping lawns, made even more fair by the gold of those perfect June days. Thursday evening Mrs. Stuart was hostess at a luncheon served on the lawn at which the masculine element was allowed to enter. A reception followed. The entire lower floor was decorated with pennants and with turquoise blue and gray, the fraternity colors, combined with a profusion of flowers against a green background. . . . It was a beautiful dream, this evening spent in one of the homes of the 'Old South' and





THE SPACIOUS TENNESSEE HOME OF THE STUARTS  
Where The 1904 Convention Was Held.

as we sang the old, old melodies again, we really thought that for that night we were living in the glorious ante-bellum days. . . ."

The second evening "we were pleased to enjoy the hospitality of Mrs. Hardwick, mother of Lollie Belle. . . ." which meant "an auto ride to a beautiful little lake, with a gypsy supper around the campfire." An auto ride in 1904 meant being in the vanguard of progress, and was undoubtedly the height of fashion.

Saturday afternoon the convention that was known as the fraternity house-party, closed. Alpha chapter's invitation to come to Farmville for the next convention was accepted.

### Third National Convention

Again a convention site was destined to be changed. Although the invitation of Alpha chapter was accepted at the Cleveland, Tennessee, meeting, a chapter vote later changed the location to Knoxville. The date which was decided for the convention was June 14-16, 1906. It was also decided that Zeta would have the honor of serving as hostess chapter for the convention.

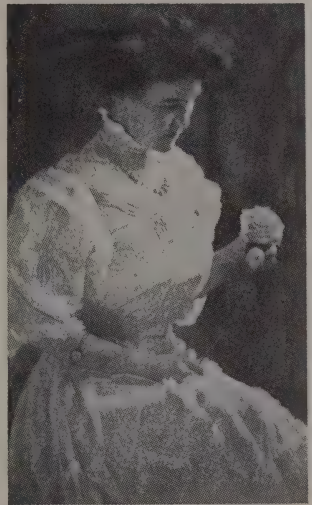
A glance at the year is sufficient to tell that the change was made because of the anticipated recall of Alpha's charter, which had previously been discussed with the chapter. It was felt that, in view of the circumstances and the action to be discussed, another location would be more suitable. As a consequence, the matter was placed before the chapters for a vote.<sup>2</sup>

"June, the month of roses in the South!" rhapsodized the November, 1906, issue of *Themis* in reporting the "Work of the Third National Convention."

Knoxville, the Mecca of all good Zeta Tau Alphas, during our . . . [June] convention! Life was filled to overflowing during those sunny days spent in Knoxville, and our youth, that period of action, never gave forth greater promise for our future. It is indeed the period of adolescence with us. We realize when we read the exchanges of our contemporaries and find the headings, "Fifty-seventh Annual Convention" or "Thirty-first Annual Convention," and we consider with respect the added wisdom that the years must have brought; and yet the present is so sweet with us that we find ourselves unconsciously questioning the lines:

"Grow old along with me,  
The best is yet to be,  
The last of life for which the first was made."

For those sisters who clasped hands the first time in Knoxville . . . and felt the response of heart to heart under the little pin each wore, it would be hard to realize that the future held a better or a sweeter thing in store.



Grace Jordan Cook

Very few successes in the world just happen so. There must be work and zeal and untiring energy behind the fruition, and so it was with our June convention. The Grand Chapter with our Grand President as leader . . . worked untiringly, and Zeta chapter . . . proved herself all that a hostess should be. And so they worked and played.



Maude Alexander Janney

Business meetings were held in the Science Hall of the University of Tennessee. A program featuring outside speakers of prominence constituted the opening session. The invocation was pronounced by the Reverend Dunbar H. Ogden, of the First Presbyterian Church, followed by Mabel Gildersleeve's address of welcome on behalf of Zeta chapter. She said, in part:

We appreciate your visit . . . and we intend taking your coming as a compliment to ourselves. . . . Though our roses are not in their first glory and the green has less of freshness, we welcome you to the University. . . . Zeta chapter is but three years old, yet we have been precocious children, as our growth testifies; but we feel that at this age our real training begins and we eagerly await the teaching and advice of our sisters. . . .

Bruce Houston Davis, Grand President, responding for Grand Chapter, reported the auspicious addition of seven new chapters (Zeta, Beta, Eta, Theta, Iota, Kappa and Lambda), and the rejection of three petitions.

The president of the University, Dr. Brown Ayres, introduced by Aileen Shea, gave an interesting address containing much practical counsel. This was followed by the singing of the convention song. The next speaker was Miss Anna Gilchrist, "dean of the woman's department," who reminded the assembly that "the strength of the pack is in the lone wolf." A fraternity song, "I Am Glad That I Am a Zeta," closed the meeting.

While all of the grand officers were present, some of them were new. Maude Alexander (Janney) resigned soon after the 1904 convention and Lillian Baird (Bradley) was appointed to the vice-presidency. Official delegates were: Grace Adams and Gertrude Burton (Schuessler), Alpha; Mary Patrick and Jane Cordill (Grunewald), Beta; Mary Simpson (Chenault) and Mildred Converse, Delta; Emma Byrnes (Barnes), Epsilon; Eta was unrepresented; Florence Cavender, Theta; Mary Tyler (Smith), Iota; May Hopkins, Kappa. Due to the illness of Bess Hardy, Lambda had no representative. The roll listed twenty-eight names.

The convention inevitably went down in fraternity annals as second to none in important decisions and conclusions vitally affecting the whole future exist-



ence and nature of the organization. Outstanding was the President's plea and recommendation that hereafter "Zeta Tau Alpha enter only coeducational institutions and very large women's colleges." Explaining her earnest conviction, after much study and investigation, that Zeta Tau Alpha must enter the Intersorority Conference, she outlined the Conference's requirements of five active chapters, not one of which might be located in a normal school or seminary. The advantages to be derived from membership in the Conference, the apparent necessity of it if future growth of the standard originally anticipated was to be maintained, were presented clearly to the delegates. Zeta Tau Alpha, in its expansion program, had encountered the strength of the Conference. Without membership in that group, the fraternity would be sadly handicapped, if not stopped, by the competition.

Convention then officially withdrew the charters of Alpha and Eta chapters since one was located in a non-qualifying normal school, and the other in a seminary—even though it maintained the highest quality of student personnel. In the case of Alpha chapter the charter was withdrawn with the agreement that as long as Alpha alumnae were capable of filling offices, one member was to remain on Grand Chapter.

Gamma, previously put on probation, was automatically debarred by this ruling, but apparently the chapter had been allowed quietly to go out of existence, for no official action ever seems to have been taken on its charter.

The suggestion that Zeta Tau Alpha, composed thus far of chapters confined to the South, consider amalgamation with a new national having only northern chapters, was reported by the President, who had handled the negotiations tactfully. Zeta's answer was negative. While expressing appreciation to the interested mutual friend who made the suggestion, the only possible answer, the one given, was that the petition of the other organization would be considered if it cared to petition Zeta Tau Alpha. Since neither organization would consider merging its identity with the other, relinquishing its pin and name, the incident was closed.<sup>3</sup>

Reports told that in the intervening years, the new constitution, by-laws and ritual had been printed, distributed and the general expenses met.

Recommendations favorably received covered a wide category, including motions that: "Each chapter write an article for each issue of *Themis* on fraternity questions; that fraternity examinations be instituted, a committee appointed to form such questions, the Vice-President to have charge of giving them. Alumnae chapters were asked to send two letters a year to their members. A song book was voted for an early publication date. Sue Burney, Epsilon, was made chairman of the committee. It was voted to secure samples of pledge pins to be submitted to Grand Chapter. The charter fee was increased from



THE THIRD NATIONAL CONVENTION—KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, 1906. "Reading from right to left: First row—Frances Smith, Founder, Alpha; May Hopkins, Kappa; Olive Hinman, Alpha; Bruce Houston Davis, Alpha; Dr. Ayres, President, University of Tennessee; Mary Stuart, Delta; Lillian Baird, Delta; Maud Jones Horner, Founder, Alpha; Mildred Converse, Delta. Second row—Butler Lucas, Zeta; Sadie Ward, Zeta; Margaret Hardwick, Delta; Mary Simpson, Delta; Jane Cordill, Beta; Frances Graves, Zeta; Aileen Shea, Zeta; Florence Cavender, Theta; Mary Tyler, Iota; Caroline Rogers, Delta. Third row—Margaret Getaz, Zeta; Emma Byrnes, Epsilon; Mary Patrick, Beta; Grace Adams, Alpha; Fannie DeGolia, Zeta; Mary Gildersleeve, Zeta; Gertrude Burton, Alpha (on left below Mary); Mabel Gildersleeve, Zeta (on right of Gertrude)."

\$25 to \$50. Chapters were urged to start a fund to be used in defraying the expenses of their convention delegates. Membership certificates were voted. Grace Jordan (Cook) was made chairman of a committee "to improve and add to the secrets of the fraternity." By-laws creating the tradition that crêpe be worn under pins for thirty days after the death of a member, and providing for religious services in chapter meetings, were passed. And *Themis* reported that . . . one afternoon "there was a heated discussion on the ritual, constitution and by-laws, with possible changes.

"It was also decided to adopt a national whistle, and at the next convention red lips will answer red lips with the call that the masculine portion of the world has so long considered exclusively its own," *Themis* said. "The colors and flower were left unchanged, yet each chapter has the privilege of selecting its own flower. The question of a pledge pin also came under discussion, and a design is to be chosen later. . . ."

Officers elected were: President, Bruce Houston Davis; Vice-President, Mary Stuart Stentz; Secretary, May Hopkins; Treasurer, Lillian Baird Bradley; Historian, Olive Hinman; Editor, Grace Jordan Cook. With the growth of the fraternity, the offices of Secretary and Treasurer were separated.

"Convention Fun" was the title of the story Maud Jones Horner wrote for *Themis*. "Wherever Zeta Tau Alphas were gathered outside of business sessions," she wrote, "fun was the main factor. Those of us who reached Knoxville on Tuesday, spent a greater part of Wednesday meeting trains. . . ."

Remembering Zeta chapter's graciousness throughout convention and its informal reception that night at Barbara Blount Hall (headquarters of the delegates), Mrs. Horner gave the chapter her highest compliment when she said that "Zeta . . . seemed indeed past mistress of the gentle art of southern hospitality." Grand Chapter entertained again at Barbara Blount the next evening. "These informal receptions did much toward bringing us closer together," they felt.

On Friday afternoon they "suspended work early in order to enjoy a trolley ride to points of interest in Knoxville, considered one of the prettiest cities in the South." That evening—two launches strong—there was a "boat ride on the beautiful Tennessee River," with a picnic-style supper that offered "everything one's heart could wish."

But convention's crowning event was the nine o'clock banquet Saturday night for which the Hotel Imperial's "beautiful dining room was skillfully decorated with the fraternity colors and chapter flower.<sup>4</sup> Soft lights have seldom shone down on a fairer scene. At one end of the table sat our Grand President, and at the other end was the toastmistress, Mary Stuart. . . . The menu [card], a delicate suggestion of gray and blue, was found at each place." Reading it





THE GRAND CHAPTER ELECTED IN 1906. Reading around the table from left to right are Olive Hinman, Bruce Houston Davis (standing), May Agness Hopkins, Lillian Baird Bradley, Mary Stuart Stentz. Grace Jordan Cook is not in the picture.

over, one can understand why Maud Horner considered it memorable enough to include in the story she wrote for *Themis*. "The following was served," she said:

### Menu

|   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <i>Chicken Consommé</i>                   |                                |
| <i>Stuffed Olives</i>                     | <i>Salted Pecans</i>           |
| <i>Broiled Blue Fish, Maître d'Hôtel</i>  |                                |
| <i>Potatoes Saratoga</i>                  |                                |
| <i>Cucumbers</i>                          | <i>Sliced Tomatoes</i>         |
| <i>Fillet of Beef, Larded, Mushrooms</i>  |                                |
| <i>Potatoes in Cream</i>                  |                                |
| <i>Sweetbread Croquettes, French Peas</i> |                                |
| <i>Sherbert Crème de Rose</i>             |                                |
| <i>Fried Spring Chicken</i>               |                                |
| <i>Asparagus</i>                          |                                |
| <i>Lobster, Mayonnaise</i>                |                                |
| <i>Lettuce with Dressing</i>              |                                |
| <i>Ice Cream</i>                          | <i>Strawberries with Cream</i> |
| <i>Fancy Cakes</i>                        | <i>Mints</i>                   |
| <i>Roquefort and Edam Cheese</i>          |                                |
| <i>Coffee</i>                             |                                |

Despite that, as the convention picture shows, all were "slim princesses" of their day.

When it came time for the toasts, Mary Stuart's "natural wit and vivacity were at their best that night." The following were listed:

- Observations—Mrs. William Davis, Alpha (Grand President)
- In the Beginning—Mrs. William Horner, Alpha (First Grand President)
- Our Brothers—Mary Patrick, Beta
- When Greek Meets Greek—Anna Rose Cohn, Eta
- Our Symbols—Aileen Shea, Zeta
- When Queens Are Trumps—Lollie Belle Hardwick, Delta Alumnae
- Our Hostesses—Olive Hinman, Alpha
- Novae Grace—Mary Simpson, Delta
- Zeta Tau Alpha—Florence Cavendar, Theta

One line of Bruce Davis' banquet speech stood out in its simplicity and truth. "Tonight," she said, "I think Zeta Tau Alpha presents a past of which she may

be proud, and faces a future brighter far than our Founders saw." Only those of 1898 could realize how true that was.

"At the close of the happy evening everyone joined hands around the table and the good old song, 'Zeta Tau, Dear Zeta Tau,' to the air of 'Old Heidelberg' was sung with a rouse that will probably not be equalled for two years to come," Maud Horner concluded.<sup>5</sup>

Convention accepted Iota's invitation to meet at Old Point Comfort, Virginia, the next year, instead of the year after, since the Jamestown Exhibition was to be held then.

### Zeta Tau Alpha Day at the Jamestown Exhibition

The Grand Chapter announces that the convention for 1907, as decided upon in Knoxville in June, will not be called, but in its stead a special Zeta Tau Alpha Day will be arranged and planned for by Iota, which was to have been the hostess chapter in 1907. The convention will be called at its regular time in 1908. This change was deemed advisable because the full two years will be necessary to try the wisdom of many of the changes made at our Knoxville convention. A vote of each member of Grand Chapter and of each active chapter was taken, and the following shows the result of the fourteen votes cast: Grand Chapter, Mrs. Davis, Misses Hopkins, Hinman and Jordan, Mrs. Bradley, negative; Miss Stuart, affirmative. Chapters: Beta, Epsilon, Zeta, Theta, negative; Delta and Lambda, affirmative. Kappa and Iota, no vote cast.

Bruce Houston Davis, G.P.  
May Agness Hopkins, G.S.

Entirely expected was the resultant enthusiasm evinced by Virginia-born Zeta Tau Alpha for an exposition commemorating the founding of the first white settlement in the United States. Intriguing accounts promptly appeared in *Themis*. The descriptions, quoted in part, serve to preserve a record of a nationally important historical event:

Jamestown has always been a name to conjure with. Every inch of ground 'round this historic spot is replete with legend, poetry, history; the romantic, the pathetic, the sublime, have mixed with its soil for so many generations that it has well-nigh become hallowed ground. Boston claims our "Cradle of Liberty." Virginia, with as much honor, can claim Jamestown as the cornerstone of the nation which has since become great and honored.

The Jamestown Exposition which opened on April 29, 1907, three hundred years after the first Virginia settlement, is a fitting monument to the past. Presided over by a man in whose veins is the blood of Pocahontas, its opening had all the pomp and ceremony that the event demanded. It was opened by our Chief Executive, while representatives of foreign nations, and dignitaries of church and state were guests. . . . The appearance of age which the past three years of preparation has made possible will increase its charm, and the high wire fence enclosing the grounds will show its covering of crimson rambler, honeysuckle, and Virginia creeper at its best in June. The architectural plan of the Exposition is colonial. . . . The military and naval character . . . will assure the visitor a sight of foreign soldiers and sailors, and our own West Point and Annapolis will come in for their share of honor.

The Midway, alias the Pike, will be called the Warpath . . . and certainly, in this instance,



it will not be incompatible for Greek Zeta Tau Alphas to "go on the Warpath." The Powhatan Guards will be the court of appeal, for such is the appropriate title given to the recruits who are to police the Exposition grounds. Oriental bazaars, the battle between the Monitor and Merrimac, Paul Revere's ride, a Swiss village, and old Jamestown will be some of the attractions along the Warpath.

June 26 was the date selected. The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* carried a complete summary of the proposed plans. Members all over the country were reminded that:

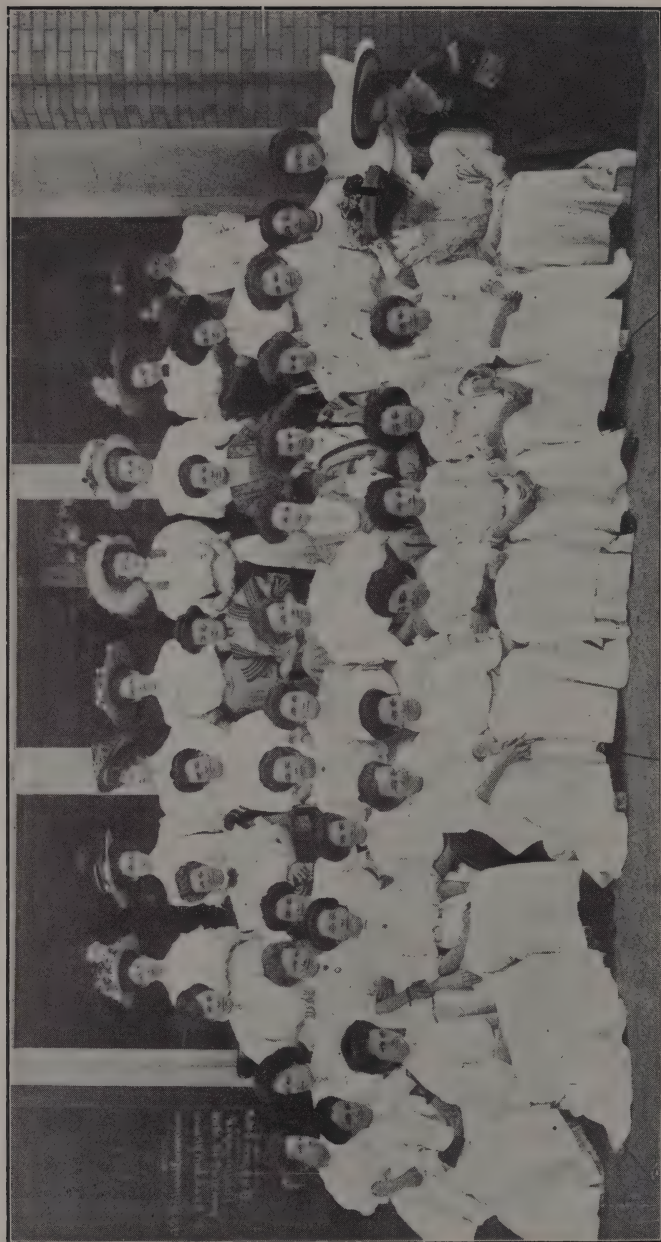
Virginia hospitality is proverbial. It is a characteristic that has been developing in Virginia for three hundred years, and we are fortunate in being able to verify it on such an occasion. The ground surrounding, with its memories of colonial life and Indian and Civil wars is fascinating; the Exposition, with its wealth of beauty and information, interesting; but for the one day of June 26, the surpassing thing of interest for us will be the celebration of our Zeta Tau Alpha Day, when for one day the old Indian land will belong to Greeks, who will tread its historic by-paths lovingly and reverently.

Thirty Zeta Tau Alphas met at the Lynnhaven Hotel in Norfolk, the official headquarters. Local alumnae and members of Iota made gracious hostesses. "As it was not a business gathering," a later account ran, "such work had no part in our day's program. At high noon we were ushered into the beautiful new dining room of the Lynnhaven, which had been decorated and set apart for the event." Olive Hinman, Grand Historian, was toastmistress. The place-cards, graceful hand-painted shields in blue and gray, announced the following toasts:

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Jamestown Exposition and Zeta Tau Alpha Day ..... | Virginia Binford, Iota |
| The Blue and the Grey .....                       | Alice Welsh, Alpha     |
| Our Founders .....                                | Ann Rose Cohn, Eta     |
| Epsilon .....                                     | Ann Urner, Delta       |
| Our Grand President .....                         | May Hopkins, Kappa     |
| Our Absent Sisters .....                          | Elizabeth Hogue, Beta  |
| Farewell (Auf Wiedersehen) .....                  | Isabel Walker, Iota    |

The boat of Governor Swanson of Virginia, hospitably offered to Mary Tyler (Smith), Iota, afforded the gay little party a delightful ride on the blue waters of Hampton Roads. The next day they met at the Exposition grounds, and, in a body, visited the numerous buildings and sights.

The Founders were represented by Frances Yancey Smith and Alice Welsh, while Grand Chapter was represented by Olive Hinman, Grand Historian, and May Hopkins, Grand Secretary. Others registered were Laura Hundley, Georgia Miller (Butler), Mary Power Farthing, Claudia Perkins (Taylor), De-Berniere Smith (Gray), Alpha; Mary Patrick and Elizabeth Hogue (Dunaway), Beta; Shirley Manor (Heywood), Ann Urner, Mary Urner, Delta; Rebecca Smith



THE FOURTH NATIONAL CONVENTION, 1908, IN ARKANSAS

(Wales), Anna Rose Cohn (Outland) and Belle Wilkinson, Eta; Vangie Vaiden (Maupin), Theta; Caroline Holladay, Virginia Binford (Howard), Julia Barnes (Hudgins), Bertha Knapp, Mattie Brown, Mary Tyler (Smith), Isabel Walker and Helen Baker, Iota, the hostess chapter. That the Grand President, Mrs. Davis, was not there "was a great disappointment to all."

And thus ended the Jamestown-Zeta Tau Alpha day.

### Fourth National Convention

The first chapter west of the Mississippi was hostess to the fourth biennial convention, June 11-13, 1908, in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Business sessions were held in the Masonic Hall "which [was] kindly dedicated to our use for the three convention days." Various committee rooms and a large reception room were at the Zetas' disposal, but the assembly hall was reserved for business sessions.

"This room was large, well-lighted and beautifully furnished, and was especially fitted to our use, with its many touches of secret order work, which such a place alone could have afforded. Attractive Zeta Tau Alpha pennants had been added to the decorations. The four broad windows opening to the south revealed a view of wooded hills and quiet valleys, which was an inspiration in itself." And they felt that the "cool, sunshiny days and clear, moonlight nights were made especially" for them.

The first session, an open one, was attended by their "Greek friends and university friends who gathered on the morning of June 11 to welcome the guests of Zeta Tau Alpha." It was called to order by Martha Wood (Hillman), Epsilon. The invocation was pronounced by the Reverend Dr. Thompson. Ruby Gibson (Turley) gave the address of welcome which was followed by a response from the Grand President, whose eloquent message "was just another inspiration from her, our guiding star which has so triumphantly led us on through our years of fight . . . enriched with the highest ideals of nobleness, strength and fidelity." The emotion of convention may be readily understood, for this was the farewell speech of Bruce Houston Davis, who announced her decision to retire from the presidency. Home duties and a growing family dictated that course.

Speaking of the past and envisioning the future for the educational advancement of women, as well as of the fraternity, she said, in part:

In turning over the duties of the position, I do so with a most earnest prayer that the future may be as prolific of accomplishment as have the past eight years during which I attended four national conventions. . . . I believe they will be. This is a growing age, more than ever the age of intelligence, of fraternity, and of loving kindness. There could be no more striking proof of it than in the growth of the higher education of women, and as one of its attendant phases, the sororities, of which ours is, in my judgment, the perfect flower.

Since our last convention, two chapters, Alpha and Eta, have ceased to exist, but we





THE ZETA CHAIN AT THE 1908 CONVENTION

are sustained by the knowledge that the love and loyalty of the girls are no less ours. Such changes are common in the history of every sorority, and while they are accompanied with regret, it is not with a sense of despair, for in their time they accomplished much, and whatever does that in this world has justified its creation, even though the hand of time has erased it.

There is ground for much hope in this first convention held on this side of the great commercial pathway. It is significant of the greatness of the great Southwest, of the growth of its culture and learning, of the increase in its educational institutions, and of the westward wending of the star of empire.

Who knows but that the next convention may be held in sight of the flashing waters of the Pacific, no more boundless than our own sea of hope. The thing will not be long deferred, and I sincerely hope that it may be accorded me to be there. . . . It will be . . . a realization of my perennial belief that sometime our great sorority will extend its metes and bounds from strand to strand, across the marvelous length and breadth of the most wonderful land the world has known.

The convention song was followed by the address of Dr. C. H. Brough, of the University of Arkansas faculty. In referring to the past and the substantial growth of Zeta Tau Alpha he "complimented the Grand Chapter on its wisdom in establishing chapters only in stronger institutions."

All grand officers were present except May Stuart (Stentz), Vice-President, and Olive Hinman, Historian. Official delegates were: Mary Ella Welsh (Hardin) and Ethel Cruse (Mouton), Beta; Delta, none; Martha Wood (Hillman), Epsilon; Alice Perkins (Warren), Zeta; Theta, none; Margaret Levy (Feuille), Kappa; Kate Lee Coltrane, Lambda. Forty-five names were listed on the convention register.

With all entrance requirements fully met, the President recommended that the Intersorority Conference be petitioned in the fall. Acceptance of this recommendation constituted the convention's outstanding accomplishment. Mrs. Davis, who had worked toward that goal for years, was named to take charge of the formal petitioning, with Alice Lake assisting.

The President reported that all petitions received since last convention were rejected because they did not conform to the high standard set by the fraternity, and that Iota's charter had been recalled.

Other convention moves and accepted recommendations included: adoption of an official coat of arms; a fraternity grip; selection of a new pledge pin, recognition of only the medium-sized badge. Convention's decision to permit the use of the coat of arms on novelty goods took care of Kappa chapter's question as to whether or not they were "allowed to have the vignette appearing on the charter" on jewelry.

Other committees were appointed to design and have alumnæ charters printed, select a place to secure robes, pennants, colors, et cetera, to design membership certificates, to arrange a Founders' Day program (October 25 was the date erroneously chosen as the official day); to submit a whistle, yell, banner,

## *An Appreciation*

*"Nay, but you who do not love her,  
Is she not pure gold?"*

When those of us who were not present at the June convention heard the glad news that our Grand President had again accepted that office, there was an unconscious uplifting of the heart, and the feeling that out of the deep we had called and the answer had been given us.

Back of the steady growth of Zeta Tau Alpha there have been the earnestness of purpose, the quiet wisdom, and the indomitable courage of one woman's will, that of our second Grand President, Bruce Houston Davis. It would be as hard to imagine Zeta Tau Alpha without the influence of her work as to fancy a strong arm left powerless. Throughout her work she has shown wisdom and loyalty and strength of character, but beyond and above all, has been her love for her work and her fraternity, which has made her success possible. The old truth remains that there abideth faith, hope and love, these three, but the greatest of these is love. Her love for her work has prompted forgiveness where misunderstandings have arisen, has shown the wise, straight course in time of doubt, and thus her love and loyalty have left their imprint upon every page of our history.

Bruce Houston, as she was then, was initiated into Alpha chapter in 1899, the fraternity being then only a local at Farmville, Virginia. She was an office holder in the chapter and a strong and capable worker, and later was elected first Grand Secretary-Treasurer. Since her marriage she has made her home in Jellico, Tennessee, where under her direct management and as a direct outcome of her plans and work the first number of *Themis* was published in November, 1903. This was followed by two later issues under her editorship. She served ably as Secretary-Treasurer until the convention of 1904, when she was elected Grand President, and since then, as before, her work and energy have been tireless. Looking back over the life of Zeta Tau Alpha, we see clearly the vitality and enthusiasm which she has instilled. At whatever page the history of our fraternity falls open, her name is written large. Her faith and work belong to Zeta Tau Alphas, present and future, and with them she may leave her work in perfect trust.

"Rude am I in speech and little bless'd with the soft phrase of peace," but today, I know, many hearts beat in concord with mine in thanksgiving that Zeta Tau Alpha has been vouchsafed this gift of a fine strong character worthy of moulding the policy of our fraternity and caring for its welfare.

November, 1906, *Themis*



signal and a new motto. The whistle which was to go down through the years, and the bugle call, were adopted at this time.

Zeta Tau Alpha's use of the word *fraternity* was reiterated. Examinations (sent sealed to her) were to be given by the chapter president and then forwarded to Grand Chapter for grading. Marks were to be published in *Themis*.

*Themis* was given attention, with the result that each outgoing member was assessed for a two-years' subscription. For the first time convention created the office of business manager and elected an incumbent. She was not a member of Grand Chapter and her work consisted mainly in securing subscriptions.

Intersorority Conference reports for each college and alumnæ chapter were authorized. Eligibility of all members of a petitioning local for initiation into Zeta Tau Alpha was affirmed. Two types of alumnæ chapters were instituted: one in which there were at least four resident members; the other, a corresponding chapter in which rounds of letters replaced personal meetings. Another change was made in the organization of Grand Chapter when the offices of Vice-President and Editor were combined.

With Bruce Houston Davis relinquishing the presidency, May Agness Hopkins became her successor. Other officers chosen were: Vice-President-Editor, Grace Jordan (Cook); Secretary, Clair Woodruff (Bugg); Treasurer, Lillian Baird (Bradley); Historian, Lorena B. Mason. Mary Patrick was elected business manager.

The social side of convention was brilliant, and well recorded. "When the first train bearing convention delegates pulled into Fayetteville somewhere in the wee-sma' hours of a moonlight night . . . Epsilon was there to greet us with . . . the rousing bugle call for which she is famous. From the arrival of the first Zeta Tau Alpha visiting shield in this beautiful little mountain town," the chronicler quaintly phrased it, "everyone seemed to feel that our entertainment was their special charge. . . . We were taken at once to our comfortable headquarters at the Washington Hotel."

Nearly two hundred guests were welcomed when Zeta Tau Alpha was honored at the annual dance of Sigma Chi, on June 10, with Martha Wood (Hillman) and Clark Hillman, Sigma Chi, heading the receiving line.

The dance took place the night before convention opened. The hall, banked with ferns, was converted . . . into a patriotic Greek assembly-place, with the colors of every Greek organization at Arkansas fluttering from the lights and electric fans. . . . Members of the younger set served punch during the dance intermissions. Dance souvenirs were exquisite little booklets in the Sigma Chi colors with white satin linings, containing pockets where



Lorena Boyd Mason

card numbers were put when engagements were exchanged. Delicious refreshments of club sandwiches, olives, mint ice, and cake were served during the intermissions. An excellent orchestra gave the programme of twenty dances, and the rising mists of morning across the mountains had begun to dim the splendor of the lights before the guests departed. . . .

Panhellenic courtesy was reflected when Chi Omega entertained at the home of Mrs. Frank Hall. "Not in the proverbial fashion did 'Greek meet Greek'," they declared

but with the grip of hearty fellowship and a sisterly welcome. The beautiful lawn was very attractive with its great oak trees, under which were scattered cozy seats, rugs and lawn chairs. Daisies were in abundance everywhere. . . . Mrs. A. H. Purdue, Chi Omega's charming President, and Miss Holcomb were in the receiving line. Punch was served from a block of ice covered with ferns and daisies, and tempting ices were served at the end of this very happy reception.

The first business session adjourned at four o'clock "ready for the garden party given at the home of Mrs. John Tillman, wife of the president of the University." Mrs. Tillman and Mrs. Nesbit were the hostesses.

The immense lawn of the beautiful home, with its fine old trees, seemed a social paradise when the delegates, visitors and girls of Epsilon chapter gathered for a few hours of social recreation. Mrs. Tillman and several loyal patronesses of Zeta Tau Alpha formed the receiving line, from which we passed on to the punch table. Our next station was a veritable Greenland's icy mountain, built from a block of ice, completely covered with red carnations, Epsilon chapter's flower, and filled with raspberry ice almost too good to be true. . . . High in a balcony facing the lawn, a stringed orchestra added its clear notes to the happy scene. On the large, attractive verandah, where numerous rugs, pillows and roomy porch chairs invited guests, were served black coffee and cheese straws. As the guests passed down to say goodbye they found the crowning ZTA feature of the decorations, a little table completely wound 'round with turquoise blue and steel gray ribbon, where they were served a small after-dinner mint, on which the letters ZTA had been molded in gray. It was a creation especially for Zeta Tau Alpha. . . .

The convention banquet, held the last night at the Washington Hotel, found covers laid for sixty-five. "From an artistic standpoint it was a big success, but the spirit of happy comradeship which each received and gave back again, made the occasion as warm and glowing as if a crown had been starred with jewels. A banquet may be a mere banquet anywhere, but here every heart was girt in an armor of gray and blue, and protected by a golden shield," ran the inspired account. "On menus of white, tied with blue cords, was emblazoned an artistic monogram ZTA in blue and gray tints." There was a place reserved for the toast list and for autographs.

"About nine o'clock the guests were skillfully arranged in the parlors of the Washington Hotel, and two by two walked down the stairway into the banquet hall," Grace Jordan wrote. "The long banquet table was a scene of beauty with its snowy linen, graceful ferns and heavy silver candelabra. Long-stemmed pink

carnations nodded at each place, breathing an incense which spoke of Epsilon's love and hearty welcome.

"The entire banquet program was arranged to do away with any feeling of strangeness, and to encourage frank congeniality and perfect enjoyment. Leaflets were given each guest on which were printed some twelve of the most stirring Zeta Tau Alpha songs. We did not wait until the end of the banquet . . . sometimes we hardly waited until the end of a course, but we [sang] when the spirit and the clear sweet voice of our leader moved. The toasts came informally between courses and a tiny rap on the table was all that was necessary to bring perfect attention to the clever remarks of our toastmistress or to the responses to the various toasts." The menu was as follows:

|                     |                     |                |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|
|                     | Consommé Clar Froid |                |
| Tomatoes Mayonnaise |                     | Broiled Trout  |
|                     | Parsley Butter      |                |
| Squab on Toast      |                     | Peas in Cases  |
|                     | Chicken Salad       |                |
| Pineapple Sherbert  |                     | Assorted Cakes |
|                     | Coffee              |                |

Irene Stockton (Thibault), who had a reputation as an after-dinner speaker, presided. Toasts were responded to as follows:

|                                      |                           |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Our Honored Guests .....             | Lexie Bell, Epsilon       |
| Our Hostess Chapter .....            | Ethel Cruse, Beta         |
| To Alpha, Our Mother .....           | Daisy Wade, Zeta          |
| When Good Fellows Get Together ..... | Alice Perkins, Zeta       |
| To Our Absent Sisters .....          | Margaret Levy, Kappa      |
| To the Adams of Our Eden .....       | Lucile Miles, Delta       |
| The Old to the New .....             | May Agness Hopkins, Kappa |
| The 1910 Convention .....            | Kate Coltrane, Lambda     |
| Until We Meet Again .....            | Jean Weld, Epsilon        |

When the last toast was given, the last health drunk, they stood with joined hands and sang the "Auld Lang Syne" of the fraternity. As "the dying flowers were beginning to send out their heavy perfume and the candles were beginning to sputter in their silver sconces," the fourth convention banquet came to a close.

Late in the afternoon of June 12, after "a day of hard work," Mrs. A. B. Kell and Mrs. McAdams gave the Zetas a farewell reception at the home of the latter. "The decorations were potted plants, ferns and cut flowers. During the afternoon, punch, brick cream, and cake were served, and never a more congenial party gathered to do honor to these two gracious hostesses, who are such loyal friends to our fraternity," they wrote.

Convention's last "social pleasure" was the dance given by the Ozark Club, of Fayetteville, "complimenting the guests. The club rooms were very attrac-



tive, and the dance hall the best imaginable. When we combine a good floor, a good orchestra, and good dancers who know how to dispense true hospitality, what more can one desire?" they asked happily. "It was another night of unalloyed pleasure. . . . There were twenty-four dances, including a Zeta Tau Alpha choice. . . ."

Before adjournment, the fraternity attempted, insofar as it was possible to put into a material token, the love, respect and gratitude it felt for the retiring President. A ring with the monogram ZTA outlined in small diamonds was presented to Bruce Houston Davis, "our guiding star through our years of fight."

The invitation of Kappa and Lambda to hold the next convention in Galveston, Texas, was accepted.

### Supplementary Notes

1. Ribbon societies, composed of members of fraternities, were a vexing problem for many years. A society known as Chi at the State Normal included some Zeta Tau Alphas. A similar organization at Randolph-Macon Woman's College later caused trouble. The complaint against them was that they detracted from interest in the fraternity and brought about dissension.

2. Before this convention *Themis* carried the editorial exhortation that:

"What we want is a large, enthusiastic attendance of alumnae, characteristic official delegates, and a large number of undergraduates representing each chapter. . . . The date is placed later this year so that each chapter can send a large proportion of its members, and it should be a very serious reason indeed that keeps a Zeta Tau Alpha away from national convention. We want the alumnae . . . present. They are a very powerful force for good, and should be awakened to the broader work, and the more serious needs of our present organization. It is the privilege of our alumnae to help this work in many ways, and the enthusiasm which a rousing convention always instills will show you opportunities for helping along that line, that would be altogether overlooked in your present dormant state.

"Again, we want such official delegates sent from each chapter as will show clearly the character, life and ideas of that chapter. Choose a representative girl always as your delegate, not the one who is [only] pretty, or attractive, or clever, but the one who has done serious, earnest fraternity work for her chapter, who knows the needs of her own particular ground, her chapter's general policy, one who can form a clear, unbiased opinion of a point under discussion.

"As to undergraduate members . . . , the chief good of conventions comes to them. It is not an exaggeration to say that each chapter lives altogether too much for self alone. The larger life of the general fraternity is too little considered, and the smaller chapter unit appears all-important to those working within its bounds. Convention broadens the horizon of each member who attends, shows clearly the working of the whole of which the single chapter is but a unit, and gives universal enthusiasm, instead of sectional interest limited to the good of a single chapter. Of what importance is your single chapter after all, if the general fraternity does not prosper and hold its high position? We want the fraternity considered first, and after that the chapter.

We want enthusiasm along broad, national lines, and the chapter that possesses this spirit will without fail make a success of its own inner life. . . .”

3. Since the proposal came to Zeta Tau Alpha through an interested mutual friend, and not from the northern organization itself, and since preliminary correspondence was entirely unofficial, the name of the group is not given here.
4. This was the period in which individual chapter flowers were permitted.
5. Even in those days convention-goers wrote their impressions for *Themis*. Said Mary L. Patrick who was to become National Treasurer in later years:

“The things that impressed me most at our June convention? First and foremost, the cordiality and thoughtful love shown us at all times. The spirit of sisterhood continued throughout the convention and we feel that it can never end. In our short stay there we learned to appreciate more the value of fraternity life and became endeared to our fraternity in general, especially to our girls the world over. I was strongly impressed by the manner in which business was conducted. Men sometimes say that women know nothing about business affairs, but I am sure, had they been at our meetings they would have agreed that we were the notable exception proving the rule. Another thing that left its impression on me was the fact that our girls were not of the frivolous order who so often prove detrimental to a fraternity’s interests, but were rather of the type having character, and we know that without this it is impossible to build up any fraternity which will last. Outside of our work, however, they were not of the sober and sedate type, but proved themselves happy and at ease in social life, which helps to prove clearly the rounded character of the college girls who made up our convention. . . .”





## Decade Development

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### *Organization and Government*

**T**HE EARLY REPRESENTATIVE form of government chosen, with its delegated representatives and an elected body, was democratic in calibre.

The fraternity's legal career began when it was chartered by the state of Virginia on March 15, 1902. While no actual extension was carried through prior to that time, there existed an important preceding governmental development.

From 1898 until the fall of 1902 the government of Zeta Tau Alpha was in the hands of Alpha chapter.

This was in accord with the 1899 constitution which stipulated that "the sorority shall, until as many as five other chapters are established, be governed by the parent, or 'Alpha' chapter, at State Female Normal School, Farmville, Virginia." Specifying officers, it directed that "the officers governing the individual chapters shall be six in number: (1) Grand Priestess, (2) Vice-Priestess, (3) Chapter Secretary, (4) Purser, (5) Historian, (6) Censor."

While five other chapters had not yet been added and the year 1902 had, to all appearances, been an auspicious one, far-sighted Bruce Houston Davis entertained grave doubts as to the adequacy of the form of government. Living in Tennessee, following her marriage of June 24 to William Emrys Davis, she "began to think about the future of Zeta Tau Alpha. I felt," she wrote, "that if we were to become a national organization, some changes should be made in our form of government, that we should have a regular constitution, as well as a ritual. This opinion was confirmed by Delta chapter."

The existing framework, it was felt, was not adequate for maintaining a group of chapters, or for extending into distant colleges. Zeta Tau Alpha had reached the "to be or not to be" stage in her existence in 1902 when Mrs. Davis, as the moving spirit, saw to the placing of the government in the hands of a governing council, and, at a time when a period of quiescence seemed pending (if not present), saw to it that the fraternity went forward in its destined path of nationalism. For Bruce Davis was afraid it might not attain that national

status. She was afraid it might not go beyond the stage it had reached at that time. Or even hold that position. She was afraid of ultra-conservatism.

Government, her thought ran, should be expanded to include participation by more than one chapter, and to include the viewpoint of more than one group. Then followed one of Bruce Davis' trips to Farmville to talk things over with the Zetas. The result was that "in September, 1902, during a visit of Mrs. Davis to Alpha chapter, it was decided to place the government in the hands of the *alumnæ*." Since Alpha was the sole governing body, all that was necessary was a majority consent of the chapter.



**BRUCE HOUSTON DAVIS**

Her wedding picture (1902).

Accordingly, Jessie Whitmore (Booker), Lila DuVal, Edith Brent Duvall (Reed), Nettie Dunnington Morton (Scott), Mary Frayser (McGehee) and Bruce Houston Davis met at the Morton home to draw up the proper resolutions. They announced the first officers of the newly formed Arch Chapter as follows: President, Alice Maud Jones (Horner); Secretary-Treasurer, Bruce Houston (Davis); Judge, Frances Yancey Smith; Undergraduate Members, Jessie Whitmore (Booker) and Mary Frayser (McGehee). Additions to Alpha's constitution, clearly noted at that time, described the new form of government as follows:

There shall be an Arch or governing chapter composed of five members of which at least three members must be *alumnæ*, until such time as there shall be five active chapters of

Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority. The members of the Arch Chapter are to be selected by the Alpha chapter and shall be either active or *alumnæ* members of Alpha chapter. The said five members of the Alpha chapter who are elected as the Arch Chapter shall select their own officers and in event of vacancies occurring, shall elect a successor. When there shall have been five chapters each in active existence two years, then the members of any said chapters shall be eligible to membership on the Arch Chapter provided hereafter, that there shall at no time be more than two undergraduate members of Arch Chapter.

At [the] time when five chapters will each have been in existence two or more years, the regular election of members to Arch Chapter shall begin and take place every two years. The election shall be as follows:

- 1 member for 6 years—largest vote six years
- 2 members for 4 years—two next largest vote—4 years
- 2 members for 2 years—two next largest vote—2 years

Arch Chapter shall control the finances of the general sorority and to it shall be submitted

all questions of government, etc. Upon receipt of a petition for [a] charter they shall select one from their numbers who shall visit the petitioners and their institution and report on same to Arch Chapter. Expenses of such investigations are to be taken from Arch Chapter funds. The Arch Chapter shall select a President and Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer's duties shall be to keep the funds of Arch Chapter and pay out moneys upon order of [the] President and under the latter's signature; keep a record of meetings, and direct to chapters such correspondence as [the] President orders.

Thus was born the short-lived Arch Chapter which was supplanted within a year by a more permanent form. "We were to have our first convention in June, 1903," Mrs. Davis continued, "so we began work on a constitution to present. Much correspondence was carried on with the members of Alpha and Delta chapters. Then, with the assistance of Mr. Davis, a document was made ready to be presented to that convention. Delta sent Maude Alexander (Janney) and Lillian Baird (Bradley) as delegates. Maud Jones was President. At this convention decided steps were taken for the future progress of the fraternity."

The year 1902-1903 was a very difficult one for the new Arch Chapter, but an early historical sketch on government recorded the fact that "in the meantime Mrs. Davis was busy writing a revision of the constitution and ritual which



NETTIE MORTON SCOTT'S HOME. It was in this house in Farmville, Virginia, that the small group met and formed the Arch Chapter of 1902, the forerunner of Grand Chapter. Plans were also made for the first national convention.



she desired to present to the convention, June, 1903."

The first convention firmly established the status of the new Grand Chapter which supplanted the Arch Chapter, and the term "Arch Chapter" was dropped forever. The change in government was sweeping. It set up the machinery for growth, expansion and internal development.

The legislative power of the fraternity was vested in conventions which were to meet biennially. Conventions were composed of the members of Grand



|                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Nettie Morton (Scott) | Mary Frayser (McGehee)    |
| Lila DuVal            | Jessie Whitmore (Brooker) |
|                       | Edith Duvall (Reed)       |

Chapter and "delegates, two each from each chapter." The executive power of the fraternity was vested in Grand Chapter, which was to be elected and composed of five members, all of whom were to be alumnae when the prescribed five chapters had been established.

The President, Secretary and Treasurer made up a committee of three to oversee finances, thus establishing the personnel of the Finance Committee that served in this form until 1923, and in slightly modified form until 1926.

From 1902 until 1904, Grand Chapter was composed of a President, Vice-

President, Secretary-Treasurer and two Undergraduate Members. In 1904 the offices of Editor and Historian were created and the Undergraduate Members were dropped. In 1906, the offices of Secretary and Treasurer were separated, thus totalling six offices, while in 1908, as the first decade was ending, the offices of Vice-President and Editor were combined, and a business manager was added, making a total of six.

### Alumnæ Organization

Organization of the alumnæ into groups in various cities came on April 15, 1905, at Newport News, Virginia, when the first alumnæ chapter was established. Its membership included three of the Founders, Alice Coleman, Helen Crafford and Mary Campbell Jones (Batte). Because the group included several cities in that area it took the name of Hampton Roads Alumnæ.

"Alumnæ chapters," they wrote, "are said to be the surest proof that fraternity bonds retain their power even after school life is over," and for their purpose they cited their desire "to help the fraternity in many ways."

Their first letter written by the secretary, Mary Power Farthing, appeared in the May, 1905, *Themis*. It told that

For several months we Zetas of Newport News, Virginia, have wished and hoped that we might have an alumnæ chapter in our midst. We thought that if we could get Norfolk, Hampton and Newport News to unite that we could have a strong chapter, and our wishes and hopes have not been in vain. On Saturday, April 15, the alumnæ of Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity met at the home of Claudia Perkins in Newport News, for the purpose of organizing an alumnæ chapter. It was indeed a joyful occasion. Thoughts of the old chapter charm were brought back forcibly and each one present had her enthusiasm for her fraternity kindled anew. . . .

The time passed quickly and very pleasantly for we were all eager to hear as much as possible of Zeta Tau Alpha's recent growth and development and we were all anxious to aid in its future success. . . . After the serious business meeting was finished, we adjourned to the dining room where an elaborate menu was daintily served. The rooms were attractively and gracefully decorated, the color scheme being green and white. Violets predominated everywhere and the souvenirs were especially pretty.

The members were: Sarah Carter, Mary Collier, Mary P. Farthing, Mary Herbert (Peake), Mary Saunders (Richardson), Alice Bland Coleman, Ada Miller (Carter), Georgia Miller (Butler), Leslie Jeffries (Wallace), Mary Campbell Jones (Batte), Helen Crafford, Mamie Collier (Vaiden) and Claudia Perkins (Taylor). The first three were the officers.

The Richmond Alumnæ, in November, 1907, with twelve members, was second, and with the organization of the Alpha alumnæ the movement became firmly established.

### *Expansion and Development*

A summation of the first decade of expansion reveals that before 1903, three chapters were added: Original Beta at Richmond Woman's College, Gamma at Hannah More Academy in Reisterstown, Maryland, and Delta chapter at Randolph-Macon Woman's College. All three took their places on the chapter roll soon after the state charter grant.

Epsilon, at the University of Arkansas, established six months after the first convention, was the first step across the Mississippi River. This was considered to be "western expansion." The next chapter was also in a coeducational college, the University of Tennessee, where Zeta chapter was installed immediately following the 1904 convention. Eta chapter, at Mary Baldwin Seminary, followed in November, 1904, while Theta, at Bethany College, came into existence on March 9, 1905. Two days later, Iota chapter, at Richmond College, was installed, with Beta following on March 16. The latter was given the second letter in the Greek alphabet, then missing from the fraternity's active roll because of the inactivity of the first Beta chapter.

Old correspondence and early manuscripts interestingly reflect the line of thought held in regard to Original Beta and Gamma. The tendency was to say very little about them. The fact that opposition to fraternities in both institutions could not be overcome in no way reflected on the new organization, but uncertainty was expressed as to the possible effect the loss of the first two chapters might have on so new a fraternity, in the eyes of the outside world. In fact, when an early *Baird's Manual* requested ZTA's listing, there was a sharp exchange of correspondence between Bruce Houston Davis and William R. Baird, the latter insisting, without Mrs. Davis' concurrence, upon Original Beta's listing.

Although it was the only chapter ever installed by Maud Jones Horner (and it was certainly widely publicized in the Richmond press), the *sub rosa* Original Beta was so little known outside of Virginia that the majority of the members hardly knew of its existence. That fact accounted for giving the name Beta to the new Judson group. There is no record anywhere of any intention to give the name of Gamma to any other group.

The 1904 convention displayed an international thought when provision was made for foreign extension, with Canada in mind. Despite different allegiances to the British crown in 1776, it was felt that a common background existed between many Canadians and Americans in the East and South at that time.

When Bruce Houston Davis was President she wrote that "our policy is to extend wherever possible when the extension will add strength and honor. . . ." They were careful about that. An editorial in the November, 1904, issue of *Themis*, after two conventions, declared that "conservatism is still our motto."



In February, 1905, *Themis* interestingly discussed the growth and policy of the fraternity, with the expressed hope "to gain our first foothold in the North." The article ran:

Zeta Tau Alpha is one of the youngest, yet, we believe, one of the most successful fraternities in the Greek world, and never has the future seemed so bright as at present. . . . Our growth and development may be called truly wonderful. Growth in quantity cannot always be called true growth, and from the beginning we have striven for quality, not quantity. . . . At present there are three petitions for chapters under consideration by Grand Chapter, which has control of expansion, and we expect soon to gain our first foothold in the North. One may perhaps question *why* this success, while others seem less fortunate, and we will without hesitation answer, because of the hard work and zeal of our governing body, and the loyalty and enthusiasm of our chapters. . . .

The day for miracles performed by faith has by no means passed, and we have found that in a single chapter, faith can work miracles in our fraternity world.

The year 1906 was important in extension. On May 7, Kappa chapter was installed at the University of Texas, and Lambda was placed at Southwestern University on May 31, thus marking Zeta Tau Alpha's entrance into the Southwest.

Satisfactory expansion progress was reported in Mrs. Davis' 1906 convention report:

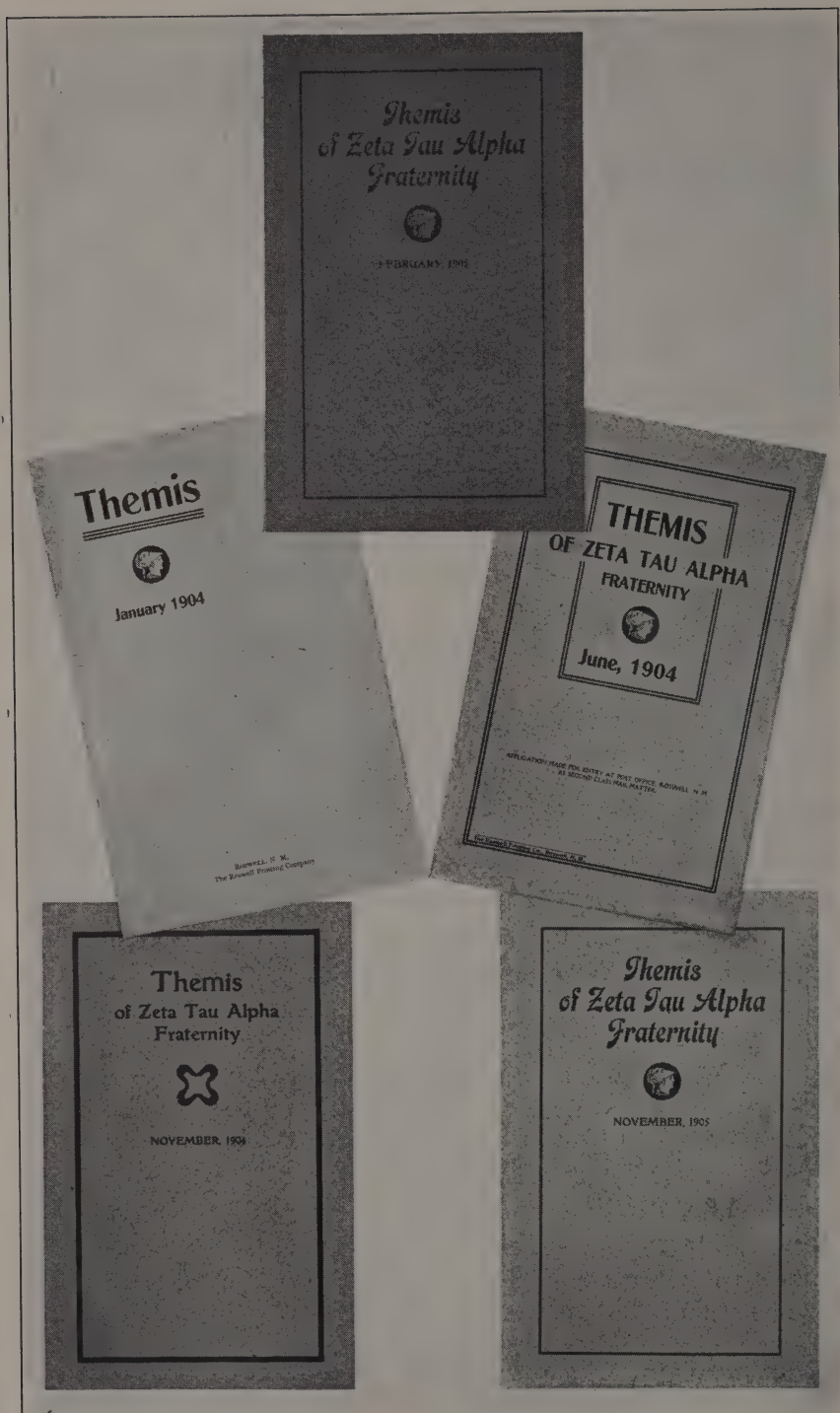
In this report it may be appropriate to review in a few words the achievements and innovations of the past two years. The great advancement has been in extension. Of the seven chapters added, perhaps one might be called an unwise venture—by this I mean in the institution itself, not the material presented. For the next two years extension must again claim our closest attention and I recommend that we enter only coeducational institutions and very large woman's colleges. I think Zeta Tau Alpha will have very little trouble in entering any institution she desires after she is a member of the Intersorority Conference.

But despite the President's expectations, there was no extension from 1907 to 1908. Her report at the next convention told that

In extension . . . our efforts have not resulted in the addition of even one new chapter. But while it seems that results of those efforts are properly expressed in "failure," I would beg to remind our members that by strictly observing the high ideals of the fraternity, we have preferred to maintain and strengthen the interest, usefulness and life of our active chapters rather than extend our lines or incorporate into our body new chapters about which there may attach undesirable conditions of membership.

The President reported being in communication with five colleges. Thus the care taken in placing chapters accounted for the expansion lull.

If a number of charter grants had been made, chapter reaction would probably have been that there was too much expansion. But when there was none, the chapters recorded immediate feelings. Delta expressed a desire for extension. Epsilon said that "the only complaint we have to make is that enough interest is not manifest toward extension." Kappa urged the fraternity to expand



EARLY COVER DESIGNS OF THEMIS

“over southern and western colleges, especially entering colleges where there are no fraternities for women.” Certain parts of the North, with their firmly entrenched nationals, probably did not appear to present the best possibilities to the new organization of southern birth.

However, eleven chapters established in the first decade formed a satisfactory record for that earliest period.

### *Publications*

THEMIS: In 1903, five years after Zeta’s founding, *Themis* had its première under the editorship of Bruce Houston Davis.

When an organization achieves a magazine and its leaders take that step so soon, there can be no question of the vision of that leadership and the organization’s chance of permanence. For the magazine is the chief coordinating influence in the fraternity. It is not only the means of news dissemination but it creates and stimulates pride, it represents the organization to the outside world and it welds a nation-wide chain of chapters into a compact unit.

According to an old record, “from 1899 until November, 1902, the sorority was held together by means of letters, but after the installation of Delta chapter the need of a journal grew greatly.”

From that point on they knew the fraternity might not “hold together” and function as a unit without the coordinating power of a magazine. It is a tribute to the perception and capability of those early leaders that they were able to single out the most vital items and put first things first. So the 1903 convention voted ambitiously to launch an official journal.

They went about it realistically. First, funds were laid aside for printing; second, the form of publication presented by Mrs. Davis was adopted, third, the name of the patroness goddess, Themis, was selected for the magazine. Actually, both public and esoteric publications were considered, but concentration was upon the pioneer publication whose début among a well-established Greek press was to mean so much to Zeta Tau Alpha.

The publication dates were as ambitious as those of any of the older groups, for the evident intention was for Zeta Tau Alpha to take its place at once on a par. The magazine was to be a quarterly, as were the others. Issuance dates were November, January, March and May. Bruce Houston Davis, then Secretary-Treasurer, became the first Editor. The trials were many. That probably surprised no one. Grace Jordan (Cook), the next Editor, described the feat of publishing a journal at this time as “courageous.”

The first issue of *Themis* appeared in November, 1903. Among the magazines of the NPC fraternities, *Themis* was the eleventh<sup>1</sup> to be launched. The initial issue was in newspaper form. It was the one and only issue of its kind. An early



record explained that convention "voted to publish a small newspaper . . . as it was not possible to publish a creditable magazine at once."

The four-sheet newspaper "devoted to the interest of the fraternity and published by the Grand Chapter," contained a clipping from the *Richmond Dispatch* relative to the incorporation of the fraternity, an account of the first convention,<sup>2</sup> general personals and chapter letters from Alpha, Gamma and Delta. The editorials were terse and pithy, for Mrs. Davis ever had the ability to express herself in a few words and to the point. Some of these sounded a familiar note. For instance:



EUNICE SAUNDERS (JACKS), the  
first business manager of *Themis*

We regret exceedingly that in this our first issue we must offer apologies to our readers for the delay we have experienced. And we feel that on some of the chapter secretaries the blame must be placed. Hoping to secure all the regular letters for this issue, we have delayed publication for some time, and even now we must go to press without all letters in. Perhaps a word to the active chapters from alumnae will be of some assistance in the future.

Introducing the new journal, Mrs. Davis said:

As this, the first number of *Themis* goes to press, we feel that a good step has been taken in the advancement of Zeta Tau Alpha. We hope through the columns of this paper to keep thoroughly in touch with all our members. In each number we wish to have letters from different chapters and thus each alumna will be certain to know how her chapter is thriving.

The reader's attention is at once caught by the constructive viewpoint of Mrs. Davis' thinking. She does not say, "to know how her chapter is *doing*." That one word could imply that the chapter might or might not be doing so well. Planting the right thought in the reader's mind she wrote, "how her chapter is *thriving*."

In January, 1904, the second number appeared. It was a neat pamphlet of some sixteen pages. The cover carried a reproduction of the head of Themis, an impression from the coin supposedly found at Troezen. Articles and quotations from other Greek magazines were introduced. An advance notice of the coming convention was from the pen of Maud Jones Horner. Epsilon gained the distinction of being the first chapter whose installation was announced in *Themis*.

The third issue, June, 1904, was dignified. Its attractiveness was enhanced by the appearance of pictures and the first Editor, who became the Grand President at that June convention, gave over the editorial reins to Grace Jordan Cook, Epsilon. At that time the separate office of Editor was created on Grand Chapter. The status of the magazine was set.

A hard stretch had been travelled. It was a triumph to the ability and energy of Mrs. Davis who persisted and won through. However, the next six years were, in reality, the character-forming years. A solid basis of good literary form resulted. The new Editor safeguarded the infant publication from early-day perils, guiding it skillfully to an early acknowledgment of excellence and value. But it was difficult to obtain suitable material. Even a wedding was of such intense personal interest to everyone that it was recorded in detail.

Not long after this, convention decided that each chapter should submit one article for each issue of *Themis*. After a time this did a great deal toward alleviating the shortage of material, even though chapters were not always prompt in living up to their literary obligations. Interestingly, that stipulation remained in the various constitutional documents until 1926.

The 1904 convention decided that three issues a year—to appear in November, February and May—would be wisest for the times. It also stipulated that



MRS. WILLIAM EMRYS DAVIS.  
The first editor of *Themis*.

each initiate be required to subscribe to the magazine. Financing the journal was a matter of consequence.

Eunice Saunders (Jacks), Epsilon, was announced as the first business manager. Her sole duty was to secure alumnæ subscriptions, for the Editor handled all the money in connection with the magazine, making contracts, paying bills and so on. Deficits were made up from the General Fund, and of course there were always deficits in those days.

The assisting editorial staff after the 1904 convention was: Bruce Houston Davis, Alpha; Sue Burney, Epsilon; Olive Hinman, Alpha. Lorena Boyd Mason, Iota, became an associate editor in 1905.

Realizing that her part was second to none in molding outside opinion and in gaining respect and prestige for Zeta Tau Alpha, Grace Jordan Cook said in her report to the next convention:

The two chief ways by which rival fraternities and sororities judge Zeta Tau Alpha are by the names on our chapter roll and through the pages of our journal, *Themis*. With the first I have no occasion to report, but with the second my heart and mind have been occupied during my term of office. The first volume only had been published when I began the work, and the marvel was that anyone had been strong enough to begin the undertaking with so little to back it, and so little material to work with. However, it was left with our present editorial board to give *Themis* its present form and place in the fraternity world.

Praise from the Greeks was understandably gratifying. An extract from the February, 1906, Kappa Alpha *Journal* pleased so much that it was quoted in a convention report. "The *Themis* of Zeta Tau Alpha for November is the daintiest of all the fraternity and sorority magazines I have seen," ran the comment. "The number contains biographical sketches of Mrs. William Emrys Davis and Mrs. William Ferebee Horner, of Zeta Tau Alpha. It contains a contribution on 'Girls,' which I quote, one on 'The Business Side of Chapter Life,' and some good editorials. The exchange department contains excellent quotations on rushing."

A second extract said: "As is to be expected at this time of the year, the magazines are much taken up with advice about rushing. The following quotation from *Themis* of Zeta Tau Alpha, a sorority whose active chapters are confined to the South, by the way, brings out some aspects of the rushing question seldom dwelt on by fraternities." There is also the reminder that "in order for a journal to be quoted, its articles must be quotable and that is the sort of material with which the present staff has been trying . . . to fill the pages of *Themis*."

Interesting features appeared in each issue. With such satisfactory progress, the re-election of the Editor was to be expected. Aileen Shea, Zeta, became the new business manager. The editorial staff again included Bruce Houston



# Themis of Zeta Tau Alpha

DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST OF THE FRATERNITY AND PUBLISHED BY THE GRAND CHAPTER

VOL. 1.

JELICO, TENN., NOVEMBER 1903.

NO. 1.

## FIRST IN VIRGINIA

A WOMAN'S INCORPORATED GREEK LETTER FRATERNITY.

## NOW IT IS BRANCHING OUT

Idea Originating at the State Female Normal, at Farmville, Extending to Institutions in Other States. Charter Provisions.

(From the Richmond Va. Dispatch)

It has been something more than 125 years since the first college Greek-letter fraternity was established; about seventy-five years since the second followed, and between thirty and fifty years since the greater number of the more prominent of the present day college secret orders began their careers of usefulness to the social world and the body politic. No woman ever joined a college Greek-letter society or attempted to establish one for her use for at least a hundred years after the founding of the first Greek fraternity for men, and even ten years ago the woman's college Greek-letter sorority was entirely unknown outside of a limited number of the larger and more university-like women's colleges in the North. It might safely be said that it has not been five years since the first chapter of a Greek-letter fraternity of any pretensions whatever was established on Virginia soil. And even now the number of chapters is very small and hardly bears comparison with the number of men's fraternities at the State's colleges and universities.

It was after a consideration of all these things, with a proper regard for the needs of such an institution, that a number of young ladies of the State Female Normal School, at Farmville, Va., established on October, 25, 1898, the first permanent and prominent Greek-letter sorority ever organized in this State. For some time the needs of some social organiza-

tion for banding together spirits of a congenial nature and preserving in permanent form certain lofty social ideals had impressed themselves upon a number of the leading young women in attendance upon this school at that time. So permission was obtained from the faculty of the institution, full preparation made in the way of constitutional beginnings, a study made into the workings of the various similar or partially-similar societies for both men and women, and the organization was finally perfected under the name and title of the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority.

The nine original members were Misses Alice Blaid Coleman and Ethel Lee Coleman of King and Queen counties, Va.; Helen Lee Crafford and Mary C. Jones, of Newport News; Alice Maud Jones, of Buckingham; Della E. Lewis, Ruby Bland Lyle, Frances Yancey Smith, of Smithville, Va., and Miss Alice Welsh of Richmond.

The sorority prospered from the very beginning. The aims of the society were generally known to be the highest, and immediately the sympathy of the best people was attracted toward the organization. It was but a little while before it was considered a very high honor to wear the pin. And this feeling has constantly increased until the present time, when membership in the sorority is looked upon as a great help socially; to be a member of Zeta Tau Alpha, which has begun to establish chapters in the leading schools and colleges for women all over the country.

Not only was a well-nigh perfect ritual prepared for the governing of the order, and songs, colors, yells and necessary adjuncts adopted, and made a body politic at the last session of the Legislature of the State of Virginia, the first college Greek-letter organization which has been similarly recognized in this State, or, so far as is known, in any State in the Union.

The sorority was incorporated in an act approved March 15, 1902. The patron of the bill was Mr. Frank C. Moon, a well-known

member of the bar, and a representative of Buckingham county in the State Senate.

The bill, which created considerable interest, contained in part the following clauses:

"1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia, That Grace Elean, Frances Yancey Smith, Susie Ware Warner, Pearl Garrett Hundley, and Mary Olivia Frayser, and such other persons as are now or may hereafter be associated with them, are hereby declared to be a body politic and corporate by the name, style and title of the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority, and by that name shall be known in law, and shall have perpetual succession and a common seal, which may be a scroll or impression, with the right to change same at pleasure, and shall have power to sue and be sued, contract and be contracted with, and have all the rights and privileges of corporation, and be subject to all the rules, regulations, and restrictions, and do all acts, and enjoy all powers incident to similar corporations in general under and subject to the laws of the Commonwealth.

"The object of said association shall be to intensify friendship, to promote happiness among its members, and in every way to create such sentiments, to perform such deeds, and to mould such opinions as will conduce to the building up of a nobler and purer womanhood in the world."

In continuing, the act states that the association is for benevolent purposes, and that there shall be no capital stock; that no charter tax is required, and that the association shall have the right to purchase, receive by gift, devise, bequest or otherwise, personal or real estate, up to and including the sum of ten thousand dollars.

This act of incorporation brought the sorority prominently before the public, and placed it above any similar society in the State in legal standing.

The sorority has recently had lithographed in Baltimore a magnificent charter, a copy of which

(CONTINUED ON FOURTH PAGE.)

Although we were chartered by the Legislature of Virginia as the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority, we shall henceforth be known as the Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity, thus distinguishing ourselves from the sisterhoods organized in connection with men's fraternities and called sororities.

The conditions and prospects of both public and private publications were discussed and funds were laid aside for necessary printing to be done this year. The name of our patron goddess, Theia, was given to the official organ.

The motion for adjournment was made at 1 o'clock a. m. and the meeting adjourned to meet again promptly at 2 o'clock.

Monday afternoon Delta chapter extended the invitation to the convention to meet in June 1904 at Randolph-Macon College, Lynchburg, Va. The invitation was accepted. This meeting adjourned at 5:30 p. m. On Tuesday morning the convention convened for the last time when the final work of appointing committees was accomplished.

#### Zeta Tau Alpha Personals.

Among the teachers in attendance at the Summer School of Methods held at the University of Virginia were the following Zeta Tau Alphas: A. Maud Jones, Mary Farthing, Lucy DuVal, Josephine Goodwin and Odelle Warren.

A. Maud Jones, New Store, Va., taught in the Public Schools of Henderson, N. C. last year and has accepted the same position for the coming school year.

Francis Smith has been teaching near her home, Charlotte, C. H. Va. This session she is teaching in Waynesboro, Va.

Edith Lawrence was married July 5th, 1902 to Mr. A. L. Laudstreet, a traveling man of Atlanta, Ga. Her address is 55 E. Cain Street, Atlanta, Ga.

Alice Welsh is teaching at Tonawanda, Va.

Grace Elean, since graduating, has taught at her home, Sheppards, Va. She frequently visits Alpha Chapter.

Josephine McLeod is teaching in the High School at Ashland, Va.

Lillian Baird will be at her home Jellico, Tenn. this winter.

In the fall of 1902 Nettie Dunnington Morton, Farmville, Va.,

was married to Mr. Walker Scott, one of Farmville's most promising young business men. She will continue to reside in Farmville.

Juan Kimmier will spend the winter at her home 601 Washington street Lynchburg, Va. Her home is headquarters for Delta.

Odelle Warren, Pamplin, Va., has been First Assistant in the High School of Cape Charles, Va. This session she will be principal of the same. For the winter her address will be Cape Charles, Va.

Gamma is regretting the loss of Mary Custis Lee, Fredericksburg, Va. who will not return to school.

The last marriage to take place among Zeta Tau Alphas was that of Elizabeth Palmer to Mr. D. M. Saunderson, on June 6, 1903, in the Methodist church at Lawrenceville, Va. After the ceremony a charming reception was held at the home of the bride. Mr. and Mrs. Saunderson will reside in Ashville, N. C. where the groom is connected with the Southern Railway.

Ethel Coleman's address for the winter will be Lee Hall, Va.

Ruby Leigh will teach at Walden, Dixfield, Co., Va.

Josephine Goodwin will teach near her home, Arrington, Va.

Alice Coleman's address is Jefferson, Powhatan Co., Va.

Della Lewis is teaching in Fife Lake, Mich.

We announce to the fraternity at large an addition to our sub-alumnae chapter, Miss Irene Laudstreet Atlanta, Ga.

Emma Magruder has moved to Arkansas. Her address is Box 156 Prairie Grove, Washington Co., Ark.

Born—to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Emory Davis, a ten-pound boy Nov. 18, 1903.

#### Alpha—Virginia State Normal.

Altogether vacation days are over it does not necessarily follow that our good times are things of the past, and the thoughts of continuing our happy fraternity life chase away all dismal forebodings of hard work.

Probably all enjoyed our first fraternal meeting more than any of the summer's gayeties. Alpha's prospects for this year are very bright, her rank being but slightly depleted in numbers. Ten members answered the first roll call,

only four failed to return and three of these were among the June graduates—Sisters Mary Frayser, Ballsville, Va. Grace Adams, Stonega, Va., and Laura Lee Carter, Newport News, Va. Their absence cast a shadow upon us which only new achievements can dispel.

We enjoyed the visit of two of our alumnae in September, Sisters Josephine Goodwin and Alice Coleman. Although their visit was a short one, they early convinced us that though out of active chapter life, they still retain a thorough love and enthusiasm for Zeta Tau Alpha.

The proverbial "goat" is very much disappointed. He is fast growing thin for lack of exercise which Fate, through the medium of our President, decrees he shall not have until January. There is a considerable amount of speculation at present among the fraternity girls as to the results of the new rule passed by the Faculty with reference to "rushing." By it, no fraternity can pledge a girl until she has been a student of this school for five months and is eighteen years of age. This is the first attempt ever made here by the Faculty to regulate rushing. The girls are looking forward to such interest.

Our chapter opened with a larger membership than any of the other chapters here, the Kappa Delta and Sigma Sigma Sigmas each having seven members.

By having the last annual convention with us in June, Alpha's members have been greatly enthused and feel that this enthusiasm cannot wane but will carry our chapter to greater success than before known to us.

We extend our best wishes to our Editors with the hope that all chapters will co-operate with them in making *THEMIS* a success; and close with the hope that all chapters will have a successful rushing season and that we may all join more heartily than ever in making our fraternity nobler and grander.

JANIE CRUTE

#### Gamma—Hannah More.

The session of 1903-'04 opens here with brighter prospects than ever before. We were back in good time to keep a lookout for desirable girls entering their first year.

Although our chapter lost six members last year, we have commenced a very promising year, and

those who returned have entered into the work with all of their old-time Zeta Tau Alpha enthusiasm. We have two pledges whom we expect to introduce in the next letter. We also have our eyes upon several other new girls, but as yet have not pledged them.

Several of our alumnae will be in Baltimore this winter and we hope to have them with us often during the year. To visiting Zeta Tau Alphas coming to or passing through Baltimore, we extend a hearty invitation to visit us.

MARTHA CURRIE

### FIRST IN VIRGINIA

(Continued from last page)

will go to every chapter now in the order, and to every new chapter as established. The work on the charter is of the highest quality, and does credit to any organization.

The badge of the sorority is a shield, gold, with black enameled spallier, raised shield in centre. The border is generally chased or jeweled. Any kind of jewels may be used, and the price of the pin may cost as low as four and as high as a hundred dollars. The initials Z. T. A. are arranged above a gold crown on the pin and the word "Themis" in Greek characters is made in gold beneath.

The colors of the sorority are turquoise blue and steel gray, and the sorority flower is the white violet.

There are yells and sorority songs and the category of such necessities is increasing daily.

Delta-Randolph-Macon Woman's College.

Delta sends her heartiest greeting to each Zeta Tau Alpha and wishes each a happy and successful year. The opening weeks of a college session are always the busiest of the year and the members of Delta have undoubtedly found this true. We have had a great deal to do and should, I think, be justly proud of our results.

At the beginning of college we had only four members in the college building, Sisters Mary Anderson, Maud Alexander, Lollie Bell Hardwick and Guendolen Howe. We had, however, very promising material among the freshmen and we went to work. The first thing we did was to open our chapter room and then we initiated our pledge from last year, Xanda Lawren. Just before this, Sister Jaen

Kinnier returned from her summer trip, and thus our pledge made us six in number. We began at once to rush the girls concerning whom we had had information, and of a possible seven who were considered we soon pledged four. We hope to introduce them to you as sisters in the January THEMIS. There are also several other girls whom we are watching closely, as we believe that they may prove good material for Zeta Tau Alpha.

As we do not expect to initiate our pledges until December, we feel that we must see as much of them as possible and instill into them at once our love for the fraternity. We have therefore adopted the plan of having a little informal afternoon tea on the Wednesday alternating with our regular meeting, to which we invite the pledged girls. These social events are greatly enjoyed and are also very helpful in bringing us together. Our pleasure is greatly increased at these meetings by our chapter room. It is a quaint little octagonal-shaped room; the walls are draped in grey and the ceiling in blue. Three sides are taken up with a truly serviceable cosy corner and the other five sides are devoted to window seats, for which we can

command a view of the entire campus, post office and basket ball field, on which the great struggle for championship between the class basket ball teams takes place.

Delta was pleasantly surprised this past week by a visit from Sister Janie Crute, of Alpha chapter. Owing to the shortness of her stay, we did not see as much of her as we wished, but even her flying visit made us anxious for more such pleasures.

GUENDOLEN HOWE, C. S.

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## Themis of Zeta Tau Alpha

Mrs. Wm. E. DAVIS, SECRETARY

JELICO, TENN., NOV. 1903

Printed by THE ROSS-LEWIS PRINTING CO.  
ROSS-LEWIS, N. M. E. F. DAVISON, Manager

### Grand Chapter.

PRESIDENT - A. Maud Jones, Henderson, N. C.  
V. PRESIDENT - Florence V. Smith, Waynesboro, Va.  
VICE PRES. - Mrs. Wm. E. Davis, Jellico, Tenn.  
CORRESPONDING - Jessie E. Whittington, Farmville, Va.  
ATTN. MEMBERS - Maud Alexander, College Park, Va.

THEMIS is the official organ of the ZETA TAU ALPHA FRATERNITY. It is published quarterly and open to general subscription. The four numbers of this paper will appear the latter part of Nov., Jan., March and June.

All matter for publication should be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the month preceding that of publication. Subscription price, \$1.00 per year, in advance. All communications should be sent to Mrs. Wm. E. Davis, Jellico, Tenn.

### Editorials.

As this, the first number of THEMIS, goes to the press, we feel that a good step has been taken in the advancement of Zeta Tau Alpha. We hope through the columns of this paper to keep thoroughly in touch with all our members. In each number we seem to have letters from different chapters and thus each alumna will be certain to know how her chapter is thriving.

—o—

We regret exceedingly that in this our first issue we must offer apologies to our readers for the delay we have experienced. And we feel that on some of the chapter secretaries the blame must be placed. Hoping to secure all the regular chapter letters for this issue, we have delayed publication for some time, and even now must go to press without all letters in. Perhaps a word to the active chapters from alumnae will be of some assistance to us in the future.

—o—

It is the desire of the editors to place this issue in the hands of all members. Those members receiving a copy marked "EXTRA" will know that their names do not appear on our mailing list as being a paid subscriber. We hope that our initial effort will commend itself to those non-subscribing members with sufficient force to let them realize that THEMIS is, at least, desirable. And we add with emphasis that unless our members, active and alumnae, will fully realize that without more material

assistance our efforts can not be successful, and that without a reasonably large list of paid subscribers, the paper will fail for lack of finances. This condition is to be regretted, but now faces us.

Certainly no one can object to the small subscription price asked. We hope this can be termed our "first and last call," and that in our next issue we can announce a large addition to our list of subscribers.

—o—

The "rushing" season is now the all important factor with our active chapters. We hope that each chapter had all its members on hand for the opening of the colleges.

The rushing must not be confined to one or two but the whole chapter must take an active interest.

Study the proposed new member well, future trouble may be avoided by so doing. Do not be too eager. She will lose interest if you are. Let the new girl see and feel that you will be true friends to her and that she can rely on you.

In selecting a new girl, the first requisite should be character. You want a girl that will help your chapter, not one that will be a drawback, but whose membership will add another congenial spirit.

It is well to remember that in rushing we cannot but injure our cause and chances if we stoop to the level of speaking disparagingly of our rival fraternities. If the girl we are rushing is of the right stamp for our fraternity (and it is certainly hoped she is,) such action on our part places us before her in an unfavorable position.

—o—

We wish to call the attention of the active chapters to the fact that fraternity girls are not ready made. As soon as you take in new members, begin to train them carefully.

You must remember that no one is perfect, that each one has her faults and peculiarities. Endow them with the true fraternity spirit, do not let them go through college performing every fraternal duty in a mechanical way and eventually drop into oblivion. Give them an abiding love for their fraternity.

—o—

At the State Normal, Farmville, Va., a new rule has been established with reference to fraternities.

Stated briefly, the fraternities are not permitted to pledge or in-

state until the proposed member has been a student at the school at least four and one half months. Further no girl under eighteen years of age can be initiated.

With the spirit and intent of this rule we are heartily in accord, and believe such rules will prove a valuable aid to all fraternities affected.

—o—

### The Convention of 1903.

The Convention of Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity was held at Farmville, Virginia, from June 6, to 10, inclusive. The Alpha chapter, situated in State Normal, entertained.

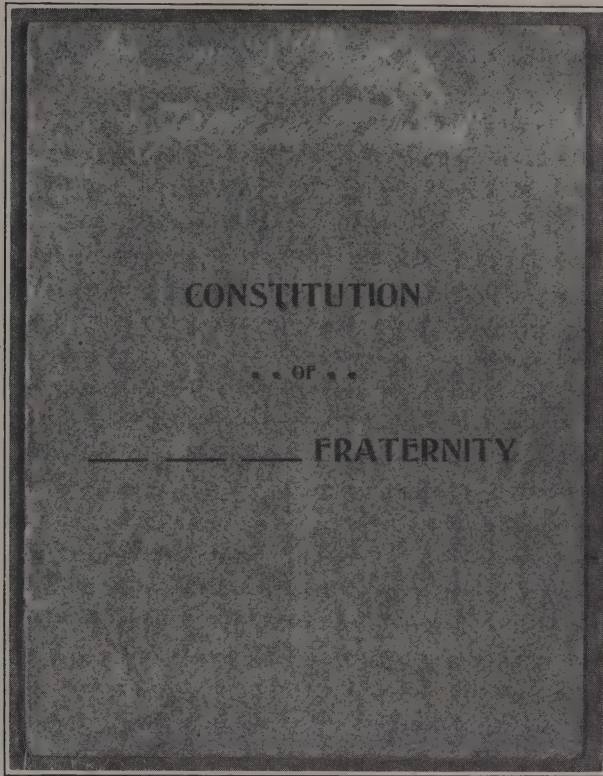
The meetings were held in the main building of the State Normal where rooms were reserved for the occasion and which were most appropriately decorated in steel gray and turquoise blue, the colors of the fraternity.

The convention opened on Saturday afternoon of June 6, with an introduction and business meeting. Miss Maud Jones called the meeting to order and welcomed the delegates and visitors in a truly Virginian manner. The convention was well attended by enthusiastic Zeta Taus from both alumnae and active chapters.

In the first meeting the all important decision was made to revise the Ritual and Constitution. This decision was reached after thorough and able discussion, in which all present joined. After having agreed upon a definite plan for the revision the meeting adjourned until the following Monday. The intervening hours, however, were most agreeably spent. An elaborate banquet in the evening afforded the delegates and visiting girls a most pleasant event, ever to be remembered. The decorations, ferns and mementoes conveyed a truly Zeta Tau Alpha spirit. Covers were laid for twenty-two and the banquet was presided over by Mrs. Walker Scott, then the latest Zeta Tau Alpha bride.

One of the most important matters discussed at the adjourned meeting convened again on Monday morning was this question of age limits for initiates.

Among other matters disposed of at the meeting were the postponement of initiations until several weeks after the opening of the schools and the limitation and designation of ribbon or secret societies of which Zeta Tau Alphas may become members.



THE FIRST CONSTITUTION

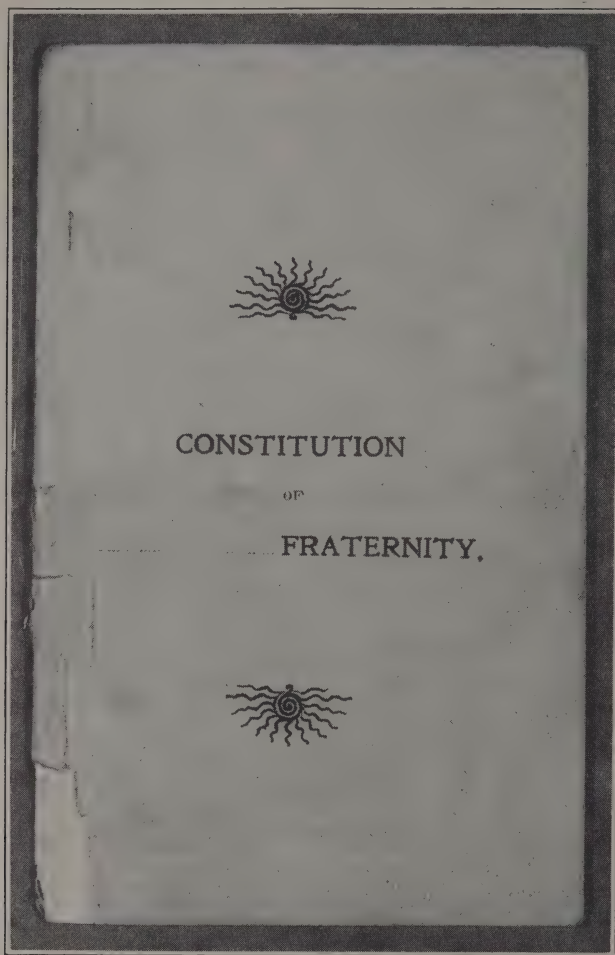
Davis, Alpha, and Lorena Boyd Mason, Iota, while Winona Wiley, Epsilon, was announced as a new member.

Of the years that followed, Grace Jordan Cook wrote: "The past two years have been a period of development in our work, especially along the lines of work contributed to *Themis*. The material furnished has been better, and the spirit of interest in our work has been more manifest than ever before. At our last convention<sup>3</sup> a measure was passed making the second of three general articles each year from the chapter, compulsory."

Mrs. Cook was again elected in 1908. The offices of Vice-President and Editor were combined. Each outgoing member was assessed the cost of a two-years' subscription to *Themis*, thus enriching the publication treasury to some extent. The Editor continued to handle the funds up to this convention, which, for the first time, created officially the office of business manager and selected the incumbent by convention election, not appointment. The duties remained mainly

the same as previously. This marked the induction of Mary L. Patrick,<sup>4</sup> Beta, into national work in which she served uninterruptedly until 1919. Mrs. Davis' name appeared as exchange editor.

*Themis* was the one publication venture of the first decade.



THE SECOND CONSTITUTION

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS:** The first copies of the constitution and by-laws were written by hand. Several of the red-backed notebooks which also contained the ritual and pledge service of the early days are preserved in the archives. Included in this collection is the notebook carefully prepared for Original Beta, the custom of the time being to send such a book to new chap-





*To whom these presents shall come, Greeting*  
 WHEREAS  
 all undergraduate students of  
 have presented a petition for a charter to establish an undergraduate chapter of Zeta Tau  
 Alpha Fraternity at the above named institution, now by virtue of the authority and  
 power in me vested, I, *President of the Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity,*  
 do hereby certify that the said

are authorized and chartered to organize and establish an undergraduate chapter of the Zeta  
 Tau Alpha Fraternity in said \_\_\_\_\_ under the laws of the  
 Fraternity, and that said chapter shall be known as  
 Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity.

*In testimony whereof, I hereunto set my hand and  
 cause the great seal of the Fraternity to be affixed.*

*Done at the city of \_\_\_\_\_ in the state  
 of \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
 in the year of our Lord \_\_\_\_\_ and of the  
 Fraternity \_\_\_\_\_*

*President*

### THE OFFICIAL CHARTER

ters. Looking over the careful transcription, so neatly done, one pays respect to the painstaking efforts that characterized these early documents.

After the 1903 convention the constitution and by-laws were revised and printed for the first time. The twelve pages were bound in blue.

In 1907, following the 1906 convention, other revisions were made, and another edition printed. Deep cream originally, the eighteen-page copy in the Historical Collection has yellowed with age.

CHARTER: Zeta Tau Alpha's first charter, which was lost after Alpha chapter

PARTICULAR QUESTIONS

- 1- When and where was Z. T. A. founded?
- 2- Name founders.
- 3- Give the history of the first four years of Z. T. A's. existence.
- 4- Give date and place of establishment of different chapters.
- 5- What is the object of your fraternity?
- 6- What kind of institutions can Z. T. A. enter?
- 7- How should a petition be presented?
- 8- How may a charter be granted?
- 9- How and why will a charter be withdrawn?
- 10- What constitutes eligibility to membership in Z.T.A.?
- 11- For what and how may a member be expelled from the fraternity.
- 12- (a) How is Z. T. A. governed?  
(\*) Give Greek names for Convention, Grand Chapter, and Grand Chapter Officers.
- 13- (a) When and by whom was the first Grand Chapter formed?  
(b) what was it then called, and of whom composed?  
(c) when were undergraduate members added? } *omit*
- 14- When was Grand Chapter formed entirely of Alumnae members? } *omit*
- 15- **Secret. Cannot be reproduced.**
- 16- **Secret. Cannot be reproduced.**
- 17- What is the price of Charter and give charter fees. *not filled in on card*
- 18- Give annual dues of active members (and of members of the Alumnae associations?) ??
- 19- Give rules concerning the badge.
- 20- **Secret. Cannot be reproduced.**
- 21- How is the seal formed?
- 22- Give names of Chapter officers and duties of each.
- 23- Give Chapter duties.
- 24- How may amendments to the Constitution be made?
- 25- Give name of publication, when issued, and how managed.
- 26- How few members may compose an Alumnae Association?
- 27- Give officers of same?
- 28- What voice may Alumnae Associations have in workings of active chapters?
- 29- What privileges have Alumnae at Conventions?
- 30- Give substance of Articles IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, & XI.

became inactive in 1906, was the personal gift of the owner of a large lithographing company to Grace Elcan Garnett, whose father was a close friend of the donor. Even though it was not lost until 1906, it was never duplicated. Only from the memories of the relatively few who saw it, was an historical description made possible.

In fact, the only charter that Zeta Tau Alpha, as a whole, has ever seen is the one made from the design adopted by the 1903 convention, and subsequently issued to all chapters. This design was drawn under the direction of Bruce Houston Davis. The drawing was photographed and the first charters were then made by hand. The names of the charter members, together with the signature of the Grand President, are inscribed thereon, while on the lower left-hand corner the gold seal of the fraternity is affixed with the official stamp. Blue and gray ribbons are attached to the seal.

This 1903 design was destined to be used through the years.

### *Examinations*

Many permanent factors that were to figure prominently in the future governing of the fraternity were established during this period. One of them was examinations.

A requirement that was to endure through the decades, examinations were first discussed at the 1906 convention which decided "that fraternity examinations be instituted [and] a committee appointed to form such questions, with the Vice-President in charge." Bruce Houston Davis and Lillian Baird Bradley compiled the first list. There were fifty questions, and they were staggeringly comprehensive. Twenty "general questions" constituted a complete quiz on other fraternities, the Intersorority Conference, with other questions included, the answers to which were to be found in Mrs. Martin's *Sorority Hand Book*,\* so generally in use then and for many years to come. Thirty "Particular Questions" concentrated on Zeta Tau Alpha.

There was an underlying reason for all of this, though. Examinations were not dreamed up just for the sole purpose of asking questions and making young girls study. Volume I of the earlier *History* stressed that "knowledge is power," and accented the value of "a well-informed membership," which should possess "not only an intimate acquaintance with . . . our organization, but an intelligent knowledge of other fraternities as well. Otherwise fraternity enlightenment would be too self-centered and narrow to serve the best purposes."

\* This *Sorority Handbook*, by Ida Shaw Martin, one of the founders of Delta Delta Delta (and a very good friend of Zeta Tau Alpha's), was for years an authoritative textbook and source of sorority information used by all the women's Greek groups.



Further, "with the growth and expansion of the fraternity some means of chapter education was necessary. The legislative power of the fraternity, vested in convention was, therefore, really vested in the members. Obviously, those who decide the policies and wield the voting power should be well informed and possessed of an intelligent understanding of the fraternity." In other words, there should be an informed electorate.

The 1907 correspondence of the President mentions that examinations were given by Lillian Baird Bradley and Grace Jordan Cook during chapter visits. And examinations had come to stay.

### *Customs, Traditions and Policies*

The traditions that greatly enrich the meaning and prestige of a fraternity began to take form in the very beginning.

Established in the early years of this first decade was Zeta's traditional preference for being known as a *fraternity*. In fact, the preference became a mandate when the first national convention in 1903 formally decreed that "although we are chartered by the legislature of Virginia as the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority, we shall henceforth be known as the Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity, thus distinguishing ourselves from the sisterhoods organized in connection with men's fraternities, called sororities." Five years later the 1908 Arkansas convention legislatively reaffirmed that stand when the "use of the word 'fraternity' " was reiterated. *Fraternity* it was to be henceforth.

Characteristic of the times and the gentle training and background of the Founders was the careful inclusion, in Alpha chapter's first book of governing rules, of mourning observances. For a chapter suffering the loss of a member the period of mourning in 1899 was one year. Other chapters were to wear crêpe under their pins for thirty days. The second constitution shortened the chapter's mourning period but decreed wearing the badge inverted for thirty days. The secretary of the chapter in mourning notified Grand Chapter and the other chapters of the member's death. The next constitution retained the custom of wearing the pin inverted, but shortened to ten days the period of mourning by the deceased's chapter. Other chapters wore their pins inverted for five days.

**HONORARY MEMBERS:** A disinclination to have honorary members was expressed from the very first. The 1899 "Ritual and By-Laws" put it quite simply: "There shall be no honorary members of the sorority." Patronesses they did have, but there was no thought of initiating them. That was the way they wanted it.

## Roster of Officers

## 1902-1903

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Grand President .....           | Alice Maud Jones (Horner), <i>Alpha</i> |
| Grand Vice-President .....      | Frances Yancey Smith, <i>Alpha</i>      |
| Grand Secretary-Treasurer ..... | Bruce Houston (Davis), <i>Alpha</i>     |
| Undergraduate Member .....      | Jessie Whitmore (Booker), <i>Alpha</i>  |
| Undergraduate Member .....      | Mary Frayser (McGehee), <i>Alpha</i>    |

## 1903-1904

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Grand President .....           | Alice Maud Jones (Horner), <i>Alpha</i> |
| Grand Vice-President .....      | Frances Yancey Smith, <i>Alpha</i>      |
| Grand Secretary-Treasurer ..... | Bruce Houston (Davis), <i>Alpha</i>     |
| Undergraduate Member .....      | Jessie Whitmore (Booker), <i>Alpha</i>  |
| Undergraduate Member .....      | Maude Alexander (Janney), <i>Delta</i>  |

## 1904-1906

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Grand President .....           | Bruce Houston (Davis), <i>Alpha</i>  |
| Grand Vice-President .....      | { Maude Alexander* (Janney), <i>Delta</i><br>Lillian Baird (Bradley), <i>Delta</i> , 1904-1905 |
| Grand Secretary-Treasurer ..... | Mary Stuart (Stentz), <i>Delta</i>   |
| Grand Historian .....           | Olive Hinman, <i>Alpha</i>   |
| Grand Editor .....              | Grace Jordan (Cook), <i>Epsilon</i>  |

\* (Maude Alexander resigned soon after convention and Lillian Baird Bradley was appointed to that office.)

## 1906-1908

|                            |                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Grand President .....      | Bruce Houston (Davis), <i>Alpha</i>   |
| Grand Vice-President ..... | Mary Stuart (Stentz), <i>Delta</i>    |
| Grand Secretary .....      | May Agness Hopkins, <i>Kappa</i>      |
| Grand Treasurer .....      | Lillian Baird (Bradley), <i>Delta</i> |
| Grand Historian .....      | Olive Hinman, <i>Alpha</i>            |
| Grand Editor .....         | Grace Jordan (Cook), <i>Epsilon</i>   |

### Supplementary Notes

1. Kappa Kappa Gamma, in 1882, with *The Golden Key*, was the first women's organization to publish a magazine. Later it became known as *The Key*. Other organizations whose magazines preceded *Themis* were: Delta Gamma, in 1884; Pi Beta Phi and Kappa Alpha Theta in 1885; Alpha Phi in 1888; Delta Delta Delta in 1891; Alpha Chi Omega in 1894; Chi Omega in 1899; Gamma Phi Beta in 1901, with Alpha Xi Delta and Zeta Tau Alpha in 1903.
2. The A. H. Fetting Manufacturing Company, official jewelers at that time with whom correspondence on file dates back to 1902, had an advertisement in the first issue of *Themis* which announced the firm in its official capacity.
3. At the 1906 convention Mrs. Davis recommended "that special work be given *Themis* for the next two years to improve it in quality as far as possible, that an article must appear in each issue from each chapter, that each chapter make an extra effort to secure the subscriptions of the *alumnæ*."
4. In 1908, Mary Patrick recommended "compulsory subscriptions to *Themis* by *alumnæ*, and that they be urged to write for same."



## *The Founders—Their Times*<sup>1</sup>

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### IN VIRGINIA

Girls elsewhere may be as nice,  
 As in Virginia,  
 Still money doesn't cut much ice  
 Down in Virginia.  
 But you must have a family tree,  
 So high its top you cannot see,  
 Or you will not be one, two, three,  
 Down in Virginia.

**H**AD THERE BEEN such a thing in those days this jingle, laughingly recited by a Founder at the 1924 reunion, might easily have been the theme song of the little band whose yardstick was marked with niches for character, background and gentility—and with whom money had no enshrinement.

All of them were lovingly bundled “off to boarding school,” as some called the Normal, with well-stocked trunks and bags full of new or made-over garments (mostly made-over), painstakingly fashioned at home, and they were expected to “go through” on about \$13 a month. They did. And they managed to have a remarkably good time while doing it. More than that, their college experiences left an indelible impression on their lives and endowed them with rich personal friendships—and forever memories.

The devotion of these girls to their families was a dominant trait, seemingly untainted by even a trace of selfishness. Appreciation was another evident attribute. None was dissatisfied with her small, if not infinitesimal allowance. And if they wore made-over clothes, they wore them with dignity, looked lovely in them, and were happy to have them. After all, most of their families had started from scratch after the war.

All of the girls had good times and happy childhoods. Some had what even a century-later evaluation would admit was a social whirl. Take Anna Bruce Houston,<sup>2</sup> for instance. And buggy-ride etiquette of the day.

“Many a heart fluttered over an invitation to go for a buggy ride,” she re-



ALICE MAUD JONES (HORNER)

called. In aristocratic Lexington, where Bruce lived, "it was not considered proper for one couple to go by themselves, so usually, from four to six went along, and there was always a scramble for the back seat."

In that gay college town—the home of Washington and Lee University, as well as the Virginia Military Institute of which her father, Major Finley



**THE CLOTHES THEY WORE . . .** "Every girl in this picture is wearing a bow tie, a billowing skirt and a shirtwaist with billowing sleeves. An 1896-1897 picture, there are no pompadours here. Hair styles are almost severely plain, with a few hair ribbons in view. Ethel Coleman is the girl reclining—front row—first girl. Alice Coleman is at the far right of the second row.

Willson Houston, was a staff member—social opportunities were abundant, especially for a beautiful, popular girl. And lovely Bruce Houston, whom they called "the blonde beauty," was that. So was Jessie Whitmore, her close friend.

"Dancing was my greatest pleasure," she loved to recall, "but I always had to come home early—for that time. However, I was permitted to dance until six o'clock in the morning during the years I was in the opening figures of the final balls at Washington and Lee and V.M.I. It seemed queer to see people going to work as I was walking home." It was quite a walk. Her beautiful, red-brick ante-bellum home with its brick slave quarters was a considerable distance beyond the outskirts of the town.

The calling system was such that "a girl could really receive a rush. It was



customary with the Washington and Lee boys," she explained, "that if another boy came in while a girl was entertaining a caller, the first caller was to stay only ten minutes longer. Then he had to leave. If a girl was popular, she could easily have twenty to thirty callers in one evening." Bruce did. "Eleven o'clock was the time to leave. In those days the boys really studied, so they called only on Friday and Saturday nights. No callers were permitted on Sunday nights, but an engagement for church was customary. My escort had to leave as soon as we reached home though, so it usually took a long time to return from evening worship."

"Actually," she concluded, "the pleasures of those days were simple indeed. We were content to accept and enjoy to the fullest those we had. Our parties were delightful, with usually some kind of a guessing game."

But in the light of later days, the Houstons' lovely, historic home, her cultured home life and the social whirl of her circle added up to a total of youthful happiness that succeeding generations may regard wistfully.

In the South this was a period of slow return to normal after long years of sluggishness resulting from the War Between the States—the Reconstruction period, with its deadening effect. Until World War I and the rise of the automobile, Virginia, like many other states, had dirt roads and slow transportation.

In Farmville there were no cement walks or paved roads. There were horses and buggies and surreys with fringe on top. There was dust that swishing long skirts swirled up and there was sticky red mud to sink into if one missed one's footing on stepping stones or precarious board walks.

Fifty years later Alice Coleman vividly remembered the "picket fence that enclosed the school grounds, with a big gate at each corner and one in the front. Just beyond these end gates, stepping stones led across the street. They were most essential," she declared. "The holes between were no figment of imagination. After a storm they were often ankle deep and how that clay-mud could stick."

They took long, old-fashioned walks. "Our chief method of exercising was walking," Alice related. So they walked for miles out in the country, down the railroad tracks, across the Appomattox River bridge, out to the lodge (then a private home) gathering dogtooth violets in enormous bunches from the fields and woods about the town. "Every Normalite," she continued, "recalls the group of springs not far from the school—another favorite walk. Willis Mountain was the first mountain that many Tidewater girls had ever seen. . . . Beyond Dr. Cunningham's home there were few dwellings, but there was a little one-room store on the brow of the hill where fruit and candy could usually be found. Many walks ended there, for you did not have to get permission to walk over the hill, as was required if going down into town."

Going in the other direction, "unless falling rain made a dash for it neces-

sary, the girls would stroll along down the hill in trios or pairs, telling secrets, getting a line on some difficult class problem, discussing the latest school gossip afloat, or just merely 'passing the time of day.' Nearby was the tennis court on which Grace Elcan played exuberantly and hard, usually defeating all opponents for she and Maud Jones were Alpha's tennis players. Frances Smith and Helen Crafford were the bicyclists."

Their amusements, like their clothes, were mostly homemade, but they enjoyed everything to the fullest. Actually life at the college in 1898 was



KESWICK—the home of Maud Jones at New Store, Virginia, from an old photograph taken in the spring when the early flowers were in bloom. The house was built in the shape of a T, consequently the four rooms and two long upper and lower porches, with a railing around them in the rear, cannot be seen in the picture.

wondrously full of wonderful things. And food played a surprisingly big part. Delicious boxes arrived in continuous succession from home, filled with tempting goodies that must have required careful shipping, such as strawberries and oysters. The talk fests that went on continuously then as now (with each generation having a different term for them), were well fortified by these boxes that figured prominently in the "spreads," "feasts" and "banquets" mentioned with unbroken regularity in Alpha chapter's letters and minute books. The topics of discussion were the same as they have been down through the years—boys, studies, life, love, boys and the pursuit of happiness—and boys. The church, of course, was the center of much activity. All were devoted church adherents.

The Nursery Hall freshmen poured out their troubles and joys to their

beloved Miss Sarah, who had them "under her wise and always gentle supervision." She understood their mistakes, and saw "that they were not hailed too often into the sterner presence of the 'powers that be,' " for they were "frequently skating on thin ice." There were so many ways to break so many rules.

The three other classes "almost always reported to Mrs. Portia Lee Morrison, whom they regarded with great respect and occasional awe. She was the sister-in-law of General Stonewall Jackson and a meticulous social arbiter. She was a wonderful person and her influence was unlimited. We stood in awe of her but admired her for her rigid standards of what a lady should or should not do."

"When we had dates (Mrs. Morrison disapproved of the word—she said that young ladies had engagements, not dates)," Janie Crute Traywick reminisced in 1948, "well, when we had an occasional caller and there was no available outfit, the entire group gladly helped out. I remember a blue accordion-plaited dress that was borrowed every time callers came to the college, which was only on Friday and Sunday nights. I cannot recall who owned the dress, but it was a popular part of the equipment of the 1903-1905 period."

On weekends there were dates with the men at nearby Hampden-Sydney College, an easy bicycle-ride away. There were occasional house parties at Virginia Beach and Old Point Comfort, and visits with school chums, with the Farmville girls getting rushes from the men of the various colleges in Virginia, of which there were many. Alice Coleman was voted "one of our favorites" by the Hampden-Sydney men. Fraternity pins? They acquired them. Some, interestingly enough, found their way into the Historical Collection where they are treasured mementoes of romances of yesteryear.

They "had wonderful times at the school, and the fellowship and personal interest of the older girls meant much to the young initiates. There was wise counsel and there was an interest in each small success of the individual members. Lagging in scholarship was frowned upon," and the girls were constantly "reminded of the high standards of the fraternity."

High pompadours, sailor hats, graceful, flowing skirts, high necks on lavishly lace-trimmed dresses and shirtwaists and small waists were all part of the late nineties' dress picture. The early Zetas depended upon nature for their complexions.

Jessie Whitmore became their "criterion on dress" later on. "Her pompadour had just the right dip. Her long, flared skirt swept the floor with a swish, and when she was ready to go out, Jessie looked like a Gibson girl"—which was the epitome of fashion, for that was the heyday of the Gibson girl. "She was anxious, too, for the rest of us to look as well as possible. In our effort to live up to her standards," Mrs. Traywick wrote, "my roommate and I cut deep V's in our new fall suits, hoping to get that front dip at the waistline like Jessie's.



But it didn't work. The queer effect we achieved was just too bad."

With few exceptions, 1865 was a decisive year for the families of these girls. When Lee dispersed his tattered army, his men went home to desolate fields, and to rebuild new lives. Their acres were without means of cultivation. With the Negro workers on whom they had depended no longer available in their former number or status, one can understand why the 10,000 acres of land owned by Maud Jones's father gained him only the name of being "land poor." After long years of struggle some forged ahead, but far more never did. More lived on in a state of genteel poverty.

So, little girls who had been brought up in genteel, but money-restricted families looked elsewhere for standards of value—such as character and gentility. And so often family and good breeding had a habit of going hand in hand with those values. They were considerate of their families, remarkably undemanding, but thrilled and appreciative when something "extra-good or special" came their way.

Pointing out the unusually pure American strain from which Zeta's Founders came, and emphasizing the fact that as a fraternity Zeta should be extremely proud of its ancestry, Plummer Jones once said: "There is no better type of Anglo-Saxon stock in the world than is found in the group that founded Zeta Tau Alpha. They are substantial people from a state famous in history whose families helped in the building of this country. They are people of highest standards, culture and morals."

No higher heritage than that could be bequeathed to an American college fraternity.

Naturally it influenced the whole fibre of Zeta Tau Alpha in the beginning. The thread of their background and gentle rearing ran through those days like a repeated theme, the influence of their birth and training finding constant reflection in every phase of their conduct and thinking. Writing of the influences surrounding and molding some of the early Zetas, Ruby Leigh Orgain once quoted: "There are three things which man holds infallible—his parentage, his religion and his country." Thus, as the earlier *History of Zeta Tau Alpha* said, "it is entirely in keeping with the beginning of Zeta Tau Alpha to consider the histories and background of the Founders in exactly the same light as their own consideration; not to place undue emphasis; but to provide the proper frame for the picture, as well as an understanding of the painting." In Zeta's early days such sketches frequently appeared in *Themis*.

*Their Stories\****Alice Maud Jones (Horner)**

One's fancy inevitably pictures a roses and magnolia setting from which would emerge a woman of Maud Jones's charm, character and poise. And for once, actuality parallels fancy. As was typical of the times and setting, all early accounts faithfully traced her unusually interesting ancestry and prefacing every sketch that appeared about her was the oft-reprinted chronicle of her Huguenot ancestry. The story ran as follows:

During the reign of Louis XIV there lived, near Sedan, in northeastern France, "a knight without fear or reproach," Charles Roché, Lord of Castle Chantilly, a Huguenot. After the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, in 1685, when the French Catholics were persecuting and slaying the Huguenots by thousands, Charles Roché sent his two elder daughters to Holland, for safety and education. Susannah, the youngest, was left behind. In writing to her father, begging that Susannah be allowed to join them, her sisters resorted to calling her the "Little Night Cap." It was difficult and dangerous for a Protestant to leave France at that time, and the religionists in power censored all communications, hence the necessity of calling Susannah by some other name. She was smuggled to Holland in a hogshead, an old playmate, Abraham Micheaux, appearing on the scene just in time to help her father effect her escape. Tradition has it that this is the very same young man she later married. After a short residence in Holland they came to America, landing in Stafford County on the Potomac River. Later they went to Manakintown where the elder son settled at Micheaux's Ferry on the James River. Dr. Foote, in his history, says: "It has not been the lot of every emigrant, however pious and devoted to a godly life, to be followed by such a numerous company of descendants as the 'Little Night Cap' whose sufferings, like many other Huguenots, began when a child." She had twelve children, and from them descended many prominent people of the Old Dominion and elsewhere.

Alice Maud Jones, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Dibrell Jones, was one of her descendants. Many fine Virginia families were descended from the Huguenot strain that took refuge in the new world and settled all the way from the Carolinas to Virginia.

There were many branches of that family tree but Maud's was the Micheaux-LeGrand line. Abraham Micheaux probably came over with the first three hundred who settled in Manakintown, for his name appears among those of the residents about that time. And from there on, the members of this family became a part of the founding story of Virginia and this country.

Anthony Dibrell (originally Du Brueil), Maud's great-great-grandfather on her father's side, was a soldier in the French and Indian Wars. Enlisting at the early age of sixteen, her great-grandfather, Michael Jones, fought with the Colonial forces during the Revolutionary War. Her grandfather, William

\* These personal sketches of the Founders, giving brief glimpses of their early lives, training, the influences surrounding them and the setting in which they grew up, take them through graduation, with mention of marriages and children.

Dibrell Jones, was a soldier in the War of 1812. Listed as a courier, his route was between Yorktown and Richmond. Although not a member of the military, her father, "a good business man," performed his service to the Confederacy in the supply department during the War Between the States, serving throughout the war. His base was in Buckingham County, at New Store.

The father of Maud's mother, Louisa T. Jones, was Thomas Flippen, who went to Missouri to take over public lands in 1840. He died there of typhoid fever the same year, leaving a large acreage of land which the family held until 1920. Louisa's mother was Mary Page Hobson, of the influential Hobson family of Powhatan County and Richmond. Returning to Virginia as an infant in arms, the baby Louisa was brought up in Richmond in the large home of John Hobson. She had many relatives in the surrounding counties of Goochland, Powhatan and Cumberland. These ancestors fought in several wars, and some were prominent in state affairs. Many had wealth and high social status.



ALICE MAUD JONES in 1898

"In personal appearance Maud Jones does not resemble her dark French ancestors. On the contrary," a 1906 *Themis* commented, "[she] is a perfect blonde, her blue eyes, fair skin and brilliant coloring betraying the fact that at least on one side of the house her ancestors were of Saxon origin."

Keswick, her home in New Store, Buckingham County, in Piedmont, Virginia, where she was born in 1880, was nostalgically described as a "big, old brick house, built long before the Civil War." It was somewhat typical of the better class homes in the area. Under its eaves nestled two brass plates



bearing the date 1859, the date of her parents' marriage, and the year the house was remodelled for them. The house faced north. On the large, tree-dotted expanse of lawn stood tall locust, cedar and white mulberry trees. Catalpas and walnut trees were in the back. The rest of the lawn was in grass. "And



MAUD JONES, 1899

there were roses, roses everywhere, except, perhaps, in the spaces where other flowers grew. The scent of white jasmine, roses and mignonette filled the air, and the mocking bird's song floated over all." And there was the constant, joyous activity of the large, closely knit Jones family famous for its congeniality and warm hospitality. There was always a house full.

They raised everything to eat. As would be expected, there were vegetable gardens in various locations about the premises. These gardens were worked largely by Negro tenants who occupied small homes in various parts of the extended farms. But "what brought the family and the neighborhood the most enjoyment was the large number of fruit trees all over the place—on the side of the yard, in the various lots and divisions—just everywhere. There were apple, peach, plum and pear trees almost anywhere you chose to look," Plummer Jones remembered, "and in several places, lines of grape vines."

As was not uncommon with southern girls of that day, Maud Jones's first schooling was under a private teacher who came to her home. Later she walked a mile and a half to the neighborhood school, which the children facetiously called "Frog Pond Academy." "In those days," wrote her sister, Annie Page Jones Cox, "before automobiles or school buses were ever heard of, it was not considered a disgrace to walk a mile; therefore the children walked to school. . . ."

The then thickly populated historical village of New Store was the center of considerable activity when the Jones family of ten children was growing up. Situated on an historically famous old stage road, a constant stream of horse-drawn traffic flowed through it, affording a constant change of scene. New Store was a prosperous village in ante-bellum days, before the railroads. A number of noted people had lived there, including Peter Francisco, the Revolutionary giant, Governor McKinney, one of Virginia's finest governors, and many others. Through the years Keswick sheltered many a weary traveler overnight, and innumerable guests were entertained in the hospitable home the year 'round.

Of Maud in those days, Mrs. Cox wrote:

From early childhood, Maud's untiring energy was the subject of many a joke and she was the object of much good natured teasing, for she was constantly alert and interested in people. A little idiosyncrasy which was termed curiosity proved in after years to be her greatest asset—not curiosity, but a sincere desire to know and come into contact with her fellow creatures, especially other girls. That was the true fraternal spirit which characterized her life, one of the most unselfish lives I have ever known.

New Store's now almost deserted Presbyterian Church was the center of the neighborhood's social and religious life. There was a large number of young people, and consequently many forms of amusement were devised. Here Maud received her first organizational experience when she and Grace Elcan<sup>3</sup> (her life-long friend) and a number of their brothers and sisters organized a little church society presumably to foster fraternal spirit, but incidentally to raise money to buy lamps for the church—lamps that were used for long years afterward. Later a social club, which met only during the summer months, was organized. It grew to large proportions, and continued for about eight years.

"All of these things were of the greatest interest to Maud, as well as to the other young people until they reached the age when more serious things occupied their time and attention and they began to separate," Mrs. Cox continued. "Many went off to school, the majority of the girls studying to be teachers, for there were few other professions open to women of the South at that time." It was then that the fourteen-year-old girl was "sent off to boarding school," as the family put it. They meant the State Female Normal School.

Maud's poise, maturity and mental development make it difficult to realize how young she really was when she went to Farmville. Half a century later a fourteen-year-old girl, considered scarcely more than a child, was but a budding teen-ager from whom neither maturity nor profundity was expected—or found. But it was not so with Maud Jones in 1894.

Her neatly written pre-Farmville diary reveals a girl of beautiful character, thought and stability. One would inevitably assume that it was written by a girl much older than she was when she was faithfully transferring her thoughts and experiences to "Dear Diary." Day by day she set down the kaleidoscopic chronicle of her friends, the things they did, the boys she was interested in, and the doings of the active Jones family. It was a gentle, philosophical, well-ordered account, authored almost unbelievably by such a young girl.

Happy, blue-eyed, golden-haired Maud Jones, who wielded so vital an influence when Zeta Tau Alpha was in the making, was a conscientious, earnest student. She was often "scared to death"—needlessly—that she would not achieve top grades and would thus disgrace a family distinguished for brilliant scholarship. Once she even confided her secret fear of being "pitched."

The Zetas went home with her for frequent visits, for New Store was not far from Farmville, and she often visited them. She loved fun. She had a sense of humor and a quiet strength underlaid with a firm gentleness and kindness that inspired loyalty and made her beloved. "Maud Jones was always a leader," Bruce Davis said in later years. "She did it quietly, and was considerate of others, but she never gave up if she thought she was right. I adored her."

At Farmville she played tennis—well. In spite of long skirts and restricting clothes. In 1900 her classmates paid her the tribute of voting her "the girl we all love." A recognized leader, she had marked executive ability and she was business manager of the Normal's annual publication. They also named her "our guardian angel."

For four years after graduation she taught in the Virginia schools, followed by two years in Henderson, North Carolina. There she met William Ferebee Horner, of a distinguished North Carolina family, whom she married on June 29, 1904, in the little Presbyterian Church<sup>4</sup> at New Store. The Horners adopted a son, Lewis.



Said Della Lewis Hundley in a 1938 tribute: "In those days we did not question or wonder why we looked so confidently to Maud, but now we know that it was her innate fineness of character that inspired our trust. It was the beauty, the goodness, the truth of her everyday living that singled her out. Always the same in work or in play, she was a gracious, dependable friend—the girl we all loved. Even now, after forty years have passed, it is her soundless voice that we hear at each turn of the road."<sup>5</sup>

### Frances Yancey Smith

Zeta's first Grand Vice-President, the daughter of Captain William Smith and Frances Yancey Mebane, of North Carolina, was born in Charlotte Court House, Virginia, in the days when the little village was called Smithville.

Hers was a background of Civil War stories, for as soon as she "could talk plainly" she was climbing on her father's knee and begging for war stories. Many was the tale he told his "Little Mistress," as he called his first little daughter.<sup>6</sup>

A Confederate captain at the age of nineteen, Fanny's father probably owed his life to a severe leg wound received at the battle of Drury's Bluff, for he was home on sick leave when the battle of Gettysburg was fought. The family always thought he probably would not have survived that fierce battle.

Then after the war—he had Confederate money. And a new life to carve out in the new world that was the South after 1865.

The stories he told included the always fascinating one about the girl he fell in love with when he first saw her as a little child in North Carolina during the war. And how, "as soon as he could get around on crutches, he began making saddles and harness from leather a friend sold to him for his Confederate money. He learned to make beautiful saddles and harness, putting many fancy stitches on the side-saddles used by the ladies. Then he began selling groceries in a corner of the leather shop. By working early and late the time came when he could go to North Carolina to press his suit with the now grown-up little girl from one of North Carolina's best known families."<sup>7</sup>



FRANCES YANCEY SMITH

In due time that little girl told her daughter Fanny of growing and spinning the thread she used to knit socks for the soldiers. When the first pair was finished she ran to the road to give them to the first Confederate soldier who passed. "She also told of boiling the dirt in the smoke house to get salt to put into food." And she never forgot how much fun it was to ride on the cavalry horses when the soldiers camped nearby came to call on her grown sisters. Fanny's mother "rode horseback long after her marriage," and Fanny herself "loved to drive and ride, especially on her favorite horse, Dexter, a beautiful black mount," which she rode side-saddle. But riding astride a little horse named Nancy, she felt "very modern" wearing the new long, divided skirts that were just coming into fashion.

The big Smith home was heated by fireplaces and lighted by kerosene lamps, so they had real need of their two house servants. Water came from the well. The kitchen, of course, was in the back yard, close by but separate from the house. The dining room was in the basement. There was a man to care for the garden, haul the goods five miles to the store, and care for the team. In one corner of the front yard was an office which, for a time after graduation, Fanny converted into a private school. Not permanent, of course, was her doll house made of dry goods boxes, which filled one corner of the porch—the gathering place for all the little girls in the neighborhood.

Although there were Frances and De Berniere (also an Alpha Zeta) and two brothers in the Smith family, Mrs. Smith continued to care for various nieces and nephews on both sides of the family. And while there was a nurse to care for the Smith babies when they were young enough to need one, Fanny's mother seldom had an idle moment. "There were so many to do things for and so many around her." Then grandnieces and nephews arrived from time to time to share the Smith home, "making about twenty in all." One reason for this was because there were "so few schools near enough for many to attend." And, "as was the custom," Fanny wrote, "Mother was always ready to help nurse sick neighbors. There were few trained nurses in those days and well do I remember her coming home from a night of nursing just as breakfast was ready."

All four of the little Smiths had curls, and while those curls were being made each morning, the children were "drilled in catechism and Bible verses." Fanny's devoted mother spent many hours reading to her own children and foster children from "Line Upon Line," "Here A Little And There A Little," "Precept Upon Precept," Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress," *The Youth's Companion* and *Chatterbox*. Here was laid the ground work for the beautiful religious character of Frances Yancey Smith, by which her whole life was guided.

It was a little too far for her to walk the two miles to the private school attended by her brother Mebane, so she received her early education at a

public school only a little over a mile away. When, at the age of fifteen, it was time for her to go to the Normal, that "first trip to Farmville meant as much to me as going to Europe would today," she said later. By motor, Charlotte Court House is only about a forty-five minute drive from Farmville. But in the late nineties "it took about a day" if they drove the entire distance over bad roads in a surrey, or if she went by train. "No wonder I stayed from September until Christmas and from January to June," she declared.

It took weeks of sewing to assemble a wardrobe sufficient for the nine months she would be away. A sewing woman came. There was tucking, ruffling and much putting on of lace. Underwear, as well as dresses, was not bought. Everything was made at home. "I do not remember having any clothing not made at home, except cloaks, until after I left Farmville," Fanny said. "On Easter, or some other special time, a dress that Mother had made for me would arrive by mail. We wore our best dresses only on special occasions, not to the class-room every day, and they lasted a long time."

Her "average monthly allowance of spending money was \$1.50, so our feasts were not elaborate unless there were boxes from home. I never remember being quite so popular as when a barrel of apples arrived."

"Fanny Smith was president of the chapter when I entered the Normal," Mary Frayser McGehee\* wrote in 1925. "She was a person of great executive ability, a lovely Christian character and one of the most popular girls in school. She did a great deal toward placing the fraternity on a high plane." Fanny was also president of the Y.W.C.A. She graduated in 1902, receiving one of the first classical diplomas ever conferred by the Normal. The faculty's recommendations of her were glowing. Later she received her B.S. degree from Columbia University. She never married.<sup>8</sup>

### Alice Bland Coleman—Ethel Coleman (Van Name)

From the aristocratic Tidewater section of Virginia came Alice Bland Coleman and Ethel Lee Coleman, the inseparable brown-eyed sisters<sup>9</sup> of founding days. They were the daughters of Richard Cowles Coleman and Isabella Gilmore Anderson Coleman, of Clarksville, Mecklenburg County, Virginia.

Born on Purtan Island (which was then their island) in history laden Gloucester County, the irresistible Coleman sisters obtained their early education privately. Since their isolated Island home<sup>10</sup> was reached by a corduroy road from the mainland, it is doubtful if they could have gotten in and out with the regularity required by a formal school, or even managed the long trip to the nearest school. So they had a governess. After completing their tutoring days, they spent a year in Richmond being further polished and educated.

\* Maud Jones's mother and Mary Frayser's father were first cousins. "Maud, as well as her brothers and sisters often visited in our home and we were especially fond of Maud," Mary Frayser McGehee wrote.



Alice so strikingly resembled her father that she was called by her father's name—"Captain Dick." It stuck with her for years. The legend of the Coleman family is an interesting one, and while it doesn't boast a ghost, it does have a legendary curse.



ETHEL COLEMAN IN 1901



ALICE AND ETHEL COLEMAN. "Taken before Farmville days but not too long before."

Captain Coleman\* (the patron of the little Farmville group whose select oysters went into the announcement party's oyster stew) was known and loved throughout Gloucester County as Captain Dick. He fought with the army of the South and was a member of Captain Pride's famous Ragged Boy Brigade—so-called because they *were* ragged.

Back of him though, was

Henry, the first Coleman to arrive in America, who came to Princess Ann County in 1632. In succeeding years he patented thousands of acres of land. But probably the family's most romantic figure was "Gentleman Richard," who strikingly resembles a leading character in one of Joseph Hergesheimer's books which has a Tidewater setting. A major in the

\* This title, which did not refer to his military status, was in common use throughout that section to indicate ownership of vessels used in waterfront business as well as for the man who was master of a ship.

Revolutionary War, in addition to his considerable previous possessions, he received 4,000 acres in the Virginia Military District as a reward for military service. A true gallant of the day, he was handsome, daring, reckless and extravagant. Eventually he lost most of his fortune, partly in payment of "debts of honor." But it was his wife, legend has it, who brought the curse of poverty on her heirs because of her haughty intolerance of those less fortunate.

After the death of their mother when they were very young, the two girls became "Daddy's shadows." At an early age "they became accustomed to handling horses, firearms and boats," but the 1928 *History* recounted that "to this day their acquaintance with 'a needle and a finely-sewn seam' is very slight," although both were skilled in the management of a household, large or small. Theirs was another home famed for its hospitality, where "young people merrily foregathered." Life was buoyant and joyous for the lively little girls who went on to the Normal in 1896 to continue their education and possibly their conquests in the Farmville area, including Hampden-Sydney where Alice was a reigning favorite.

Some of their romantic mementoes are in the Historical Collection. There is a Pi Kappa Alpha pin. And Ethel's pointed-toe, black satin dancing pumps with accompanying black silk hose that looked sturdy fifty years after they had been retired from dancing duty.

Ethel, considerate, poised and gracious, was "as gentle as the zephyrs blowing below the violet," her classmates said. Alice was sparkling, generous and gracious. There was never an account that didn't mention her "sparkling brown eyes." But make no mistake, while they were popular, they had brains in their pretty heads. They made splendid records at the Normal and they played prominent parts in Zeta's founding. In 1899 Alice became the first secretary of Zeta Tau Alpha.

The two graduated in 1901. Alice was assistant editor of *The Normalite* that year. Specializing in music, she received a diploma from Northwestern University in 1904. She taught music in the Virginia schools until illness forced retirement in 1907. She never married. "Greenwich," in Gloucester County, near the postoffice of Sassafras,\* became her home later on.

Ethel taught in Virginia and the Carolinas until the marriage of her elder sister called her home as "the next in succession to assume the coveted title of 'Daddy's housekeeper.'" After his death in 1908 she married Arthur La Grange Van Name on June 20, 1909, and went to West Point, Virginia, to live. Her son, Arthur Van Name, Jr., became a physician.

\* Sassafras is really a country store, three quarters of a mile from the lane entrance to "Greenwich," which is a portion of a once enormous estate originally known by that name. Here a great sassafras tree, a giant among its fellows, some eight feet or more in circumference, spreads its huge branches. When the little store was built it accepted the protection and acquired the name of this old native of the forest primeval.



### Ruby Bland Leigh (Orgain)

"From many interesting ancestors," Ruby Bland Leigh once wrote, "I have received much inspiration and encouragement which I hope will make my own pathway of years more useful and beautiful."



THE DECORATIONS on this picture of Ruby Leigh tell their own story.

Born in Plain View, King and Queen County, Virginia, she had among her ancestors the Leighs who were

decended from Princess Mary, sister of King Henry VIII, whose husband was the first owner of Stoneleigh Abbey, the ancestral home in Warwickshire of the Lords Leigh, who bore the standard of Edward the Black Prince at Crecy; Sir Edward Leigh, who was killed in the battle of Agincourt, and Sir Thomas Leigh, who was Lord Mayor of London during the reign of Queen Mary, and who was knighted by her. The Leigh ancestors came to Jamestown, Virginia, about 1649, to escape persecution by Oliver Cromwell. One William Leigh was a representative from King and Queen County in the House of Burgesses from 1692 through 1703.

Born December 4, 1879, the oldest of four children, Ruby Bland Leigh was the daughter of William Joseph Leigh and Nannie Field Bland Leigh. Both parents were of English descent. Her father, who was born in Sassafras, Virginia, was a prosperous merchant. He was in the Ninth Virginia Cavalry, Lee's Rangers,\* during the War Between the States, and for many years she had the diary he kept before, dur-

ing and after that period in his colorful and event filled life.

"Among other valued treasures of the past," she wrote, "a quilt made by

\* Her application for membership in the Daughters of the Confederacy was signed by Captain R. E. Lee, son of General Robert E. Lee, who also wrote her a letter about her father.



my grandmother Frances Bland, some two hundred years ago takes me back to my grandfather's plantation in King and Queen County, with its Great House, as the Negroes always called the house of the master and family. This two-story building with its large rooms and basement, big fireplaces and winding stairways, was surrounded by a spacious, shady lawn.

Besides the large family of children, there were slaves acting as servants-at-large in the home and on the farm. Everybody and everything moved like clock-work. Every Sunday morning the coach and coachman stood at the front door for all who were ready for the drive to church. On one occasion my mother was left for being slow, but by chance, my grandfather, Major Bland, had to return for the glasses he had forgotten. This gave her the opportunity to slip in and occupy her seat in the family pew at Shackelford's Church, where he asserted his stewardship.

In this well ordered home where contentment and happiness reigned, the day's program started and ended with family prayers, and the doors were always open to circuit riders, preachers and travelers.

"No doubt," she continued, "my quilt was used by many guests of honor who dreamed of both peace and war. There were many scenes in 'The Littlest Rebel' which reminded me of happenings told me by my mother, especially the hiding scene when the Yankees were coming."

A 1938 visit to the home of her grandfather, Roderick Blank, a major in the Virginia militia, was an unforgettable experience when she went "down the lovely old stairway to the parlor" in which her parents were married, "and from there to the long dining room in the basement where the wedding supper was served from the glowing coals of the great old fireplace."

A communicant of the Methodist Church, she too, grew up in a home guided by deep religious principles. In fact, "the two native qualities that characterized the people of that county were their 'conservative spirit . . . and religious inclination.'"

Growing up, Ruby evidently was not a "natural born cook," judging from the story about her and her "old colored Mammy (a former slave), who loved her sister more than she did Ruby" because her sister "favored" her father. Mammy Hannah, it seemed, "delighted in praising sister's cooking accomplishments to everyone, always adding, 'but Ruby can't make anything but sass (sauce).'" Always spotless in her black dress, white apron and cap, she wore gold rings on both hands and shining half-moon earrings. "She was the joy of my childhood," Mrs. Orgain said years later. "Her book was nature, with all its elements in full dress. She could not read, but she did not need to, for she was always the producer. Some of her superstitions have stood by me to this day. And I shall always glory in 'the great round world' which Mammy Hannah pictured to my imagination."

When she was nine years old, after being taught by a private teacher for

three sessions, Ruby was sent to the public school near her home. In 1896, when was fifteen, she entered the Normal, one hundred and fifty miles away. Plain View was nine miles from West Point and thirty-six miles from Richmond.

"While my trunk was filled with made-over dresses and garments, I found myself wearing the simple, tailored frocks I liked best—most of them high at the neck with tie decorations," she remembered.

Another Virginia miss who was careful with her pennies, she emphasized that "idle spending was unknown to my pocketbook. During the four years I never wrote home for money except for the necessary funds, which I usually carried with me for the session. When there were extra gifts, I was all the more grateful and considerate. I never came home except for the summer months, for our Christmas and Thanksgiving holidays were only one day each. But they were gala occasions for those of us who remained because we couldn't reach home in a day. We always looked forward to a more formal meal with turkey, cranberries and the burning plum pudding with brandy (or a good imitation of it) sauce."

A girl with many friends, *The Normal Light* of her 1899 graduating class\* called her our "sympathetic Ruby." At Farmville she formed the precious friendships that led to her becoming one of Zeta's Founders. The "decorated" picture, now in the Historical Collection, gives evidence that she was a young lady of numerous admirers. She later described her stay with Zeta Tau Alpha as "short but sweet."

She, too, taught in the Virginia schools until her marriage on October 25, 1906, in Washington, D.C., to Albert Marcellus Orgain, Jr., who became clerk of Dinwiddie County (in which they lived) and president of the Farmers' Bank. She had two sons, Albert, Jr. and Francis Leigh, and a daughter, Parke Leigh (the only daughter of a Founder), who followed in her mother's footsteps by attending Longwood College. Her special initiation into Zeta Tau Alpha is told in the story of the fourth decade.

### Helen May Crafford

Helen May Crafford was born in Orange County, Virginia, and she came from a family that was prominent in the educational world. Descended on her mother's side from Captain Thomas Wills<sup>11</sup> of Revolutionary fame, she used the Wills coat of arms. Her father, Dr. J. H. Crafford, was superintendent of schools of Warwick County and Newport News for a number of years. He also served two terms in the Virginia legislature. Eva May Salter, her

\* She was treasurer of her graduating class.

mother, was a teacher, as was her grandmother, grandfather and many of her aunts. G. L. C. Salter,<sup>12</sup> her grandfather, was a prominent teacher who had a school for boys and girls in York County, at "Glenbrook," the home of Dr. Robert N. Power, grandfather of Mary Power Farthing, Alpha.

When she was three years old her parents moved to "Brushwood," in Warwick County, and there established the home that was to be the family residence for many years. Lee Hall, which became her lifelong address, is only a short distance from historic Williamsburg, Yorktown and Jamestown.

Brought up in the very cradle of America and steeped in the tradition and culture of her historic surroundings and background, Helen Crafford was another Founder with a fine American heritage. Poised, charming and brilliant, she, too, had no close acquaintance with the domestic arts, nor hankering for them. An excellent horsewoman and a good shot, she rode to the hounds and chased many a hapless fox over hill and dale. She learned farm management and raised prize fowl and thoroughbred dogs.

When she chose to follow her family's educational tradition she naturally went to Virginia's one training school for teachers. She entered the Normal in 1897 and graduated three years later, in 1900. Learning came easily to her, and she had the high attributes of character demanded by the close little group that became Zeta Tau Alpha. In addition to having fun, making good grades, and excelling in German, she was one of the school's "bicyclists."

In 1900 Helen Crafford began her teaching career at Morrison, in Warwick County. After the death of her mother in 1902, she returned home to keep house for her father, three sisters and a brother, meanwhile teaching a one-room school at Lee Hall. After her father's death she became both father and mother to the family, bringing up and educating her sisters and brother.

Although she managed a farm and had many other interests, teaching became her lifelong profession and love—a very rewarding one for her.<sup>13</sup> "Teaching," she once said, "is more than just a way to earn a living. It is a way of life, and a good way."



HELEN CRAFTFORD





DELLA LEWIS DURING  
NORMAL DAYS

### Della Lewis (Hundley)

Della Lewis traced her lineage on one side back to Queen Anne of England; on the other side to the Welsh family of Lewis ancestors who fought on the side of the Crown in the Irish rebellion in 1798; and to a forebear who served as an Indian scout under General George Washington in the Revolutionary War.

Raised in Virginia, where she received her early education in the private and public schools of Surry County, she was the only Founder who was not actually born in that state. She was born in Ashland, Pennsylvania, but left there at an early age.

She entered the Normal when she was fifteen years old, and quickly became one of the select little "crowd" that formed Zeta Tau Alpha. "A quiet, fragile girl," whom her classmates called "our orderly Della," she had a delicate, wistful beauty.

After graduation in 1899, she, like the other Founders, went directly into teaching. In 1907,<sup>14</sup> she married William M. Hundley, a newspaper editor. The Hundleys lived in both Virginia and North

Carolina, but mostly in Virginia. They had no children.

### Mary Campbell Jones (Batte)

Mary Campbell Jones, who was never called anything but Cammie, was born in historic Warwick County, "in the little village of Morrison." The only daughter of DuRoc Hughes Jones and Mary Green, hers was a merry child-

hood with five devoted brothers dancing attendance. They “never allowed her to know the meaning of the word lonesome.” Why she was not spoiled no one knew, but she wasn’t.

Hers was also a solid Virginia background. As far back as the family knew, their ancestors were Virginians. Soon after the death of her father, when she was sixteen, she went to Farmville, “where other happy, full years followed.” And where, all evidence indicates, her popularity continued. It was to Cammie that the by-now-famous strawberries were sent by an admirer.

German seemed to be a popular language at that time, so Cammie took it too, and qualified for the German Club. After graduation in 1902, she taught in the Morrison schools for two years. Then, on October 11, 1904, she married S. Basset Batte, of Prince George County, Virginia, and went to Norfolk to live. Norfolk became her permanent home. She had two sons.



MARY CAMPBELL JONES—“Cammie”—  
about the time that ZTA was founded.

### Alice Grey Welsh

Less complete is the available family record of Alice Welsh.\* In fact, gay, vivacious Alice’s historical record is virtually nil, probably because she would never settle down to going into it. A wonderfully loyal Zeta whose devotion carried through the years, blonde Alice was a real personality with a “vast gift of accomplishment and originality.”

Devoted to riding, she started a riding club in Richmond and was a charter member of the Deep Run Hunt Club. She hailed from the Confederate capital of Richmond and grew up in its social life. She was a member of the pre-1898 group at Farmville, graduating in 1899. She never married.<sup>15</sup>

\* Pictures of Alice Welsh when she was in Farmville are found in the chapter on Founding and Early Days.

### *Collaborators*

All through early-day writings there ran a recurring note of acknowledgment to "our brothers."<sup>16</sup> They were Plummer Jones and Mebane Smith, while the other interested friend was William Emrys Davis, the husband of Bruce Houston Davis, who wrote Zeta's initiation ceremony and who became, to all intents and purposes, a full-fledged member.

#### **Plummer F. Jones**

Plummer Jones, then a student at the College of William and Mary, was not only gifted with a facile pen, but he was willing to give his time and ability to his sister's fraternity. Indeed, discoveries fifty years later indicated their com-

plete willingness to leave the organizational details up to him. Devoted brother that he was, he made the contribution they so confidently expected. That was: the first official constitution and by-laws, the pledge ceremony and the ritual.

After the new organization was successfully launched he became its first unofficial but highly effective public relations representative in an era when that term was probably completely unknown. As a member of the editorial staff of the *Richmond Dispatch*, he championed the new fraternity and in no time he was eloquently refuting statements made in his own *Kappa Alpha Journal*, the *Kappa Alpha Theta* and *The Woman's Home Companion* because fraternity lists they had printed committed the error of omitting the Virginia-born groups for women. A dashing young man with a magnetic personality, Plummer knew a



PLUMMER F. JONES—a picture taken when he was a student at the College of William and Mary.



remarkable number of young ladies in Virginia's various schools for women. Always zealous for Zeta, sometimes he sounded them out on the possibility of forming a new chapter.

Plummer Jones became a Presbyterian minister, an authority on Virginiana, a writer and educator of note, and the author of several books, notably one on Ireland that gained a wide reputation. Many historical articles carried his by-line and he wrote for current magazines. His interest in Zeta Tau Alpha remained constant through the years. As mentioned in other pages, his Greek-letter organizations were Kappa Alpha (S) and Phi Beta Kappa.

### Giles Mebane Smith

Brilliant Mebane Smith whose untimely death was called "a calamity to the state," had but a brief time in the sun, but he packed half a lifetime's achievement into it. He gave Zeta its name and motto, and he suggested the badge. He also gave the ambitious but technically unequipped new group "much encouragement when we were needing it sadly," his sister wrote. "He was traveling student secretary for the Y.M.C.A. in Virginia at that time and came to see us frequently."

In the terms of any period Mebane Smith was a strikingly outstanding student, whose "convictions as to religion and character were very mature." He was not quite fifteen when he matriculated at the College of William and Mary, where he became a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Theta Psi. After graduation, while doing post-graduate work, he was an assistant in Greek and Latin. Thus he was ideally equipped for the part he played in Zeta's formation.



GILES MEBANE SMITH

He received his M.A. from the University of Tennessee in 1899. On July 15, 1899, he became college secretary of the Y.M.C.A. for the state of Virginia, a position he held at the time of his death. That fall he went to the University of Virginia to continue his studies. Only twenty-three years of age, he passed away on November 14, 1900.

### William Emrys Davis

Only one who has had access to the early archives realizes how much of the early correspondence and records were in Will Davis' handwriting. He was his wife's constant consultant and collaborator. The 1903 and 1904 revisions of the constitution and by-laws were made with his assistance. While Zeta's



WILLIAM EMRYS DAVIS  
Delta Tau Delta

ritual remained practically unchanged from the ceremony prepared by Plummer Jones, Mr. Davis "helped with some necessary re-arrangements."

But most important was the initiation ceremony which he and Bruce Davis wrote soon after 1903—the same ceremony used throughout the years. Prepared in time for the 1904 convention, this service, written in Mrs. Davis' handwriting, is in the fraternity's archives. While the Reverend Dr. Jones was a member up to the pledge ceremony and ritual stages, Mr. Davis made his contribution to all of that, and added the initiation ceremony.

The handsome William Emrys Davis met Anna Bruce Houston in Lexington, Virginia, when he was attending Washington and Lee University, from which he graduated in 1899. After their marriage in 1902, although always very busy with his extensive business interests,

from then on he became an active part in mapping the organization and future destiny of Zeta Tau Alpha—then only four years old and very much in the "to be or not to be" stage.

An experienced and ardent fraternity man himself (a Delta Tau Delta), Will Davis was familiar with fraternity functioning and he gave his wife the benefit of all that knowledge as well as of his genius for organization. He worked closely with her, even writing many of her letters and speeches as she shaped Zeta's future in the direction of becoming a national fraternity affiliated with N.P.C.

A devoted and active member of the Presbyterian Church, Will Davis was a thirty-second degree Mason, a Knight Templar and a Shriner. A capable business man, he became one of the South's most successful coal operators. He passed away on November 2, 1953, just ten years after the death of Bruce Houston Davis on September 10, 1943.

## Supplementary Notes

1. Said the 1928 *History of Zeta Tau Alpha*: "Zeta Tau Alpha was born in a state that saw the first white settlement in this country, a state of undisputed greatness that has given a prodigious number of great men to the nation, not the least of these a Washington . . .

"The very name Virginia has long bespoken aristocracy and all its exponents to the popular mind. The name itself is royal and many of the counties, such as Anne, William, King and Queen, George, Carolina, Louisa, Orange and a score of others, are commemorative of royalty." Contrasting with this is the lack of royalist names in New England. "Another commonly entertained concept is that the state's prominent people were, for the most part, descendants of the Cavaliers; therefore of gentle blood. Certainly no little emphasis must be placed upon the Cavalier element that helped make Virginia's greatness. Such historically well known names as Washington, Lee, Randolph, Monroe, Madison, Cary, Pendleton, Ludwell, Parke, Marshall, Tyler, and many others, were from Cavalier families . . .

"Just how many members of the royalist party came to Virginia while their young king (Charles II of England) was off upon his travels, is not known. But there were unquestionably a great many. A marked increase in population and in the size of land grants and slaves are indicative of an influx of eminently well-to-do people. Of Tidewater, Virginia, however, one may say that the migration of the Cavaliers from England to that colony stamped it as a Virginia of the English noblesse. Not a few Zeta Tau Alphas were from that section."

2. To Bruce Houston Davis, more than any other one person, must go the credit for the present day Zeta Tau Alpha. At two important times in the fraternity's life—turning points actually—her vision and initiative guided it to the right course. Evaluated from the vantage point of fifty years hence, the results from any other course are plain. Regrettable delay would have resulted at one time—actual localism at another.

As President she not only set the fraternity firmly on a completely national basis, but she saw it accepted as a member organization of N.P.C.

Her contribution all those years is all the more remarkable and commanding in respect because, at the same time, she was rearing five children.

3. Grace Elcan was married to John Garnett in this little church. Unquestionably, if she had been a student at the Normal in 1898, Grace Elcan would have been one of Zeta's Founders, for she was closer to Maud Jones than anyone else. "I spent the early part of the session of 1898 at my home in Buckingham County because of the serious illness of my mother," she wrote. "After her death I returned to school. It was my childhood playmate and college roommate, Maud Jones, who, in her sweet, winsome way, told me of the organization they were working on, and asked me to join them. Coming at the time it did, it meant more than an organization to me. In a manner it helped comfort me in my great sorrow."
4. Yellowed newspaper clippings lovingly kept told that: "At New Store, Virginia, on June 29, the end of the month of roses and marriages, was celebrated the wedding of Mr. William Ferebee Horner, of Rosemary, North Carolina, and Miss Alice Maud Jones, of New Store.

"The Presbyterian Church, noted in Presbyterian history for the past three quarters of a century, was the scene of the impressive service, the officiating minister



being Reverend James Henderlite, of Henderson, North Carolina. The church was handsomely decorated with a variety of evergreens, streamers extending from above the pulpit to the pillars sustaining the galleries; the pillars themselves were wreathed with evergreen and the pulpit was covered with red roses and magnolia blossoms. The bell under which the couple stood to plight their troth was formed of daisies and magnolia blossoms, and the soft lights which shone out from the green background seemed to give a benediction.

"The bride was gowned in white silk, her veil being pinned with a brooch of quaint design, the gift of her mother from her own bridal gifts of years before. The bridesmaids wore white silk mull with bouquets of pink carnations.

"Immediately after the ceremony, the bridal party was driven to Keswick, the country home of the bride, where a wedding luncheon was served . . .

"Mrs. Horner has for several years been the able president of her fraternity, Zeta Tau Alpha. She is an enthusiastic fraternity girl, and it was quite a notable feature of her wedding that most attendants wore either Zeta Tau Alpha or Kappa Alpha badges. . . . Mr. Horner is a member of the Horner family of North Carolina, well known in educational circles." The Horner's famous old academy was one of the well known schools of the South before it was destroyed by fire.

Yellowed, but in a state of perfect preservation, the long sweeping skirt of Maud's wedding gown is in the Historical Collection. The Jones family kept and treasured everything, so when Maud's sister sent this precious gift to the National Historian at the time of the Farmville plaque dedication, she was parting with something very dear to her. The waist and the skirt were separate. Mrs. Cox thought that the missing waist might be packed away in one of her many stored trunks, but her health prevented her from going through them before her death shortly thereafter. Also given to the Historical Collection were Maud's long, white kid wedding gloves, a lovely ivory, sequin-trimmed, delicate white fan and the hand-made silk slip (which might have been called a chemise then) which she wore under her wedding gown.

5. Maud Jones Horner died on August 20, 1920. On her 1924 "trip for history," following the Founders' reunion, "the National Historian made a pilgrimage to Henderson, North Carolina, where, on November 29, in the name of the fraternity, she placed a Zeta Tau Alpha floral design on the grave of the Founder who was the first to go."
6. Fanny's tiny, tatting-trimmed muslin baby clothes, which she so graciously gave to the Historical Collection, always delight convention-goers browsing through the Historical Exhibit. The little sunbonnet, heavily loaded with tatting, is an especial joy. The perfectly laundered and starched garments are yellowed but in a state of perfect preservation.
7. Both Yancey and Mebane are well known North Carolina names. The town of Mebane, North Carolina, was named after Frances Smith's grandfather, Giles Mebane, who was a member of the legislature when the railroad was put through that part of the state. He was a lover of the classics and an able lawyer. Chapel Hill had a portrait made of him in later years. Family tradition also has it that Robert Mebane, of Tennessee, was the first to take a sword from a British officer on American soil.

Fanny Smith's mother, Frances Yancey Mebane, was from Caswell County, near Milton, North Carolina, where she attended school, stopping at the age of sixteen. Unlike her elder sisters who were sent away to school before the outbreak of the

War Between the States, there was no money for anything of that sort for her after that conflict. During the siege of Richmond, relatives from that city took refuge at "Oakland," the Mebane home in North Carolina, staying for a year or so. However, Fanny's grandmother, Mary Catherine Yancey, went to Winston-Salem, where she studied music at the Moravian school there. Fanny inherited her rosewood piano.

Mary Catherine was the daughter of Nancy Graves and Bartlett Yancey, who died in his early forties. But before his early death he became a Congressman, and is credited with being the father of the public schools in North Carolina. As a boy he rode horseback to enter the University at Chapel Hill, his bag of clothes thrown across the saddle. Yancey County and the town of Yanceyville are named after him, as is the Bartlett Yancey High School in Yanceyville. William Yancey, the orator of Secession, was his brother.

8. With the death of the colored couple who had served the Smiths for over thirty years, it was impossible to replace them. Then began Fanny's reluctant culinary education in 1948.
9. Their youngest sister, Mary, was always known as Lady Mary.
10. The massive key that once opened the door of the Coleman's forty-two acre island home is in the Historical Collection—donated by the Coleman sisters. With Captain Coleman's death in 1908, the Island passed into strange hands, but no one ever lived there after that. The lovely place fell into desolation. Marauders removed doors, fireplaces and other parts of the house, but Alice and Ethel were philosophical about its fate because the sea is gradually reclaiming the Island and it long ago became impossible as a habitable location.

Signpine was listed as Lady Mary's address when she was in Farmville. So named because of a large pine used as a landmark for direction (no doubt when roads were mere trails), Signpine was the post office closest to the island. It is about five miles from Sassafras.

11. Captain Wills owned warehouses on the beach at Yorktown. He was the father of Ann Wills who married Mr. G. L. C. Salter and was Helen Crafford's grandfather.
12. Helen Crafford's grandfather, Mr. G. L. C. Salter, was teaching in Richmond during the War Between the States when that city was burned. He "refugeed" to Hampton, taking his furniture in a horse-drawn wagon. A spool table he saved (one he had used in the chapel where he was teaching) later had a place of honor in his granddaughter's living room.
13. Miss Crafford had the distinction of having a road named after her in later years. As permanent evidence of the community's regard, a short distance out of Yorktown a sign reads "Helen Crafford Road."
14. Della Lewis Hundley died on July 12, 1951. She is buried in Norfolk.
15. She moved to Honolulu several years before the bombing of Pearl Harbor, which she went through unharmed.
16. In Greekdom's annals there are several instances in which men were members of women's fraternities and vice versa. In June, 1860, Beta Theta Pi initiated Emma Bennett and Celia Crocker into their Wabash chapter. They were "good Beta girls," and the men found nothing in the constitution of the order or the by-laws of the United States to forbid it.

When the War Between the States broke out in 1861, the Sigma Alpha Epsilon cadets at the Kentucky Military Institute answered the call of their respective states. Faced with preserving the chapter and uncertain of their own return, they entrusted the records to the care of Lucy Pattie, a "bright, cultured and vivacious young lady."

When the war ended and the Institute reopened, the men showed their appreciation of her services by initiating her into Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

Then, for valuable assistance in helping them establish their Mississippi Alpha chapter, Phi Delta Theta elected Miss Kate Caroters, of Oxford, Mississippi, to honorary membership and presented her with a badge. Said George Banta, Sr., "the constitutions of the different organizations did not prescribe sex as a distinction to be observed in electing members, because boys went straight to boys' schools and girls to girls' schools. All these documents had been drawn in a day, not yet closed in the South, and then only just closing in the North, when coeducation was unknown."

George Banta, Sr., Phi Delta Theta's first National President was, himself, a member of Delta Gamma. This story is told on page 15. Of those times, Mr. Banta said:

"Prior to 1880 there was very little system, fixed law or plan, or definite method in the fraternity world of the West and South or anywhere in the still very small sorority world. Expediency ruled far more than law or design. Most often the thing done was the thing that would bring a result immediately visible to the eyes of the doers. And it is most true that had there not been this extreme flexibility in every way, the Greek system of the West and South would never have grown into the great organization that exists today."

Dr. Charles Richardson, Kappa Sigma, was a member of Chi Omega. Because of his wide fraternity knowledge he was asked to assist in the preparation of a constitution and ritual "for the purpose of establishing a local," to quote Dr. Richardson.



## The Signature

**Z**ETA TAU ALPHA is a family with an official signature, one designed for it by the cultured framers of the fraternity's first governmental and ritualistic structure. A delightful, distinctive touch—and heritage—it has intrigued generations of initiates and engendered as many generations of questions about it.

Although dreamed up in Virginia by a brilliant boy and a starry-eyed girl who knew nothing of *paraphs* or *rubrics*, their desire for a distinctive signature that would distinguish Zeta Tau Alpha for all time to come resulted in the adoption of a signatory practice that reached back into distant times for its origin.

Zeta's signature came into being with the handwritten "Ritual and By-Laws" drawn up in the summer of 1899 by Plummer Jones<sup>1</sup> at the invitation, or insistence, of his sister and her fellow Zeta Founders. This "sign to be used in letter writing" was first designated on page 4, Article VII, of the By-Laws, but immediately following, on page 28, Article XXVIII, there is a further explanation and an exact illustration of the correct manner of executing the signature.

Article VII, designating the "sign," is unquestionably the work of the summer of 1899, but the explanation in Article XXVIII is probably the setting forth of the selection of the exact type of the signature which was to be decided upon at a later date. In any case, the signature is easily dated and the drawing made so many years ago is clear and distinct.

Significant Article XXVIII not only reiterates the purpose set forth in the previous clause, but restrictive use is indicated by the specific stipulation that the signature be used "when writing to each other." The absence of the modifying word *only*, means nothing. The original intent is clear. The early framers envisioned the signature as a highly-personalized family affair, a between-Zetas signatory sign. Was it meant to be secret? The location of the sentence listing it in company with other secret "signals" of the fraternity leads to the unavoidable conclusion that its proposed use was, at first, esoteric.

Was secrecy as complete as that accorded the initiation rites intended originally? Perhaps only Maud Jones Horner, who inscribed the first signature, knew exactly. Seven years after her death, when work on the first *History of*

*Zeta Tau Alpha* was well advanced, the question was put to the Founders. None had any remembrance of the signature although Alice and Ethel Coleman's sister, Mary, who followed them in Alpha chapter, "could distinctly remember the signature" and after a time Alice Coleman averred that she "was beginning to." They agreed though, that there was nothing secret about the sign as they knew it. Just as the flower and colors were a part of Zeta Tau Alpha, so was the signature (and no more secret) but it was a matter of honor that none but initiated Zetas use it. Just as the badge was known about and used only by the initiated, so did the right to use the signature come only with initiation.

Other considerations to the contrary, the usage of subsequent years makes this seem logical, for while employing it in communications within the circle, time has stripped it of any esoteric nature that may have been intended for it in the beginning. Indeed, by the end of the second decade its use had grown almost too general and its correct usage had to be clarified from time to time. Its use on hotel registers of the day was hotly debated after enthusiastic delegates to a convention signed their names with the official signature. After that the listed traditions of the fraternity provided a guide for its use: "in closed correspondence only"—a newer way of saying "when writing to each other."<sup>2</sup>

As the distinctive mark of a Zeta Tau Alpha, the sign has been found on official fraternity documents and "at times it has been used as a 'signal' by Zetas far from home." For the most part, though, it has had few uses aside from those originally intended. Thus custom and usage established a possessive and exclusive but non-secret status, and actual variance from the directed use, "when writing to each other," has not been wide. This, however, was not true of the manner of its execution.

Anything not cut from the original pattern each time is likely to become changed in line. A change here, a change there and lo! something different emerges. And something entirely different from the correct signature did emerge and was in general use for many years until research for the first two volumes of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha* uncovered and corrected the discrepancy. The signature had undergone a transformation by minimization. In transmitting it from person to person, its correct execution as illustrated in the 1899 example underwent near-amputational alteration until in time it appeared in a form abbreviated almost to the vanishing point. By 1926 the Zetas found by the National Historian to be using the true signature were so few as to be negligible in number. Correction made at that time resulted in restoration of the correct and interesting signature bequeathed to Zeta's members in its first official governmental document, but the hundreds initiated prior to that time were mostly instructed in the incorrect version. This accounts for the non-uniform

variations occasionally found. When the one official document containing the original drawing was brought to light, the true pattern was available for the first time in years and many practiced a flourish they had never known before. While actually not complicated, the signature requires a little practice and concentration before one gets the swing of it.

While Spencerian penmanship (already obsolete by the turn of the century) was full of swirls, and no doubt was dear to the hearts of the Founders' parents,<sup>3</sup> it was not the inspiration for Zeta Tau Alpha's signature. Rather its origin stemmed from the *paraph*, or *rubric*, as it was called in Spain.

A *paraph* is defined as "a flourish at the conclusion of a signature used in the Middle Ages as a precaution against forgery," while the corresponding Spanish *rubric* is similarly defined as "the complicated flourish attached to a signature . . . as individual and characteristic as the handwriting." Zeta Tau Alpha's signature more closely resembles the Spanish *rubric*.

In its earliest and original sense the word *rubric* means red earth or ochre, hence it was applied to words written or printed in red lettering, in manuscripts or printed books, such as chapter headings, paragraphs, initial letters, et cetera, thus marking, in a striking manner, that to which attention was to be drawn.

But Spanish custom gives another significance to the word. It denotes the flourish so often seen in historical Spanish signatures. Those elaborate rubrics were often the most conspicuous features on a page. Usually expansive, highly intricate and complicated, full of flourishes, extremely difficult to copy (as they were meant to be), they were often real masterpieces in the art of tracing complicated designs. Some of the rubrics of Spanish royalty extend entirely across the page. With such a difficult signature forgery would be well-nigh impossible. And, in a day when some people wrote very badly, while others could not write at all, the rubric often provided the means of identifying a signature that otherwise would have been illegible.

It was also thought that a man's character could be deciphered through the study of his rubric. Would not a strong, forceful man make large, bold strokes, and would not a less vigorous man trace more delicate lines? Further, the individual's occupation was often thus exemplified. Shippers and merchants, for instance, used an outline of a ship barely sketched on their signature. Various kings wrote the Latin word *Rex* with a great flourish at the end of their names.

In Mexico the rubric used in connection with the signature was legally considered of greater importance than the name itself. Mexican law actually regarded the rubric, or flourish, to be the essential part of the signature, and none was legally recognized unless it had some such mark, even though that mark consisted of nothing more than a straight line. The name might be inscribed or printed in another hand, but it became the true signature only when the



rubric was added by the one taking responsibility for the document or letter. One might even sign another's name without being guilty of forgery, but the forging of any rubric was a serious offense under Mexican law.

While Zeta's story goes back only to the nineteenth century, the origin and practice of a hidden signature dates back through the centuries:

Following the Roman practice, subscriptions and signatures were required in legal documents in the early centuries of our era, hence they were found in a few Latin deeds on papyrus which came to light in Egypt. They were also found on the well-known Dacian waxen tables of the second century, and in the series of papyrus deeds from Ravenna and other places in Italy between the fifth and tenth centuries. The same practice obtained in the Frankish Empire. The Merovingian kings made use of monographs composed of the letters of their names, and, curiously, the illiterate monograph was destined to supersede the literate subscriptions. For the monogram was adopted by Charlemagne and his successors as the recognized symbol of their subscription. It was their "*signum manuale*," their sign manual. In imitation of the royal practice monograms and other marks were adopted by official personages even though they could write. The notarial marks of modern times are a survival of this practice. By the illiterate other signs besides the monogram came to be employed, such as the cross, or circle, as signs manual. The monogram was used by French monarchs from the reign of Charlemagne to that of Philip the Fair, who died in 1314.

Formerly the sign manual was not by any means limited to the poorly circumstanced. Document after document of the eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth centuries exhibit excellent examples of such signatures. In those times education was rare, and more often than not monarchs themselves were completely innocent of penmanship. A document signed by Henry I of England and members of his household in the first years of the twelfth century revealed that none of the members of the royal entourage could even write their own names.

The employment of marks or signs manual went out of general use after the twelfth century in the course of which the affixing or appending of seals became the common method of executing deeds. But as education became more general and the practice of writing more diffused, the usage grew up in the fourteenth century of signing the name signature, as well as affixing the seal, and by the fifteenth century, it had become established and remains so today.

The paraph, identical in purpose and akin to the sign manual in certain respects, has its own individual and peculiar characteristics. Its use was especially popular in the eighteenth century but that popularity did not stem from ignorance of writing. The development was more of a fad, perhaps a reflection of the ornateness of the dress of the period or the pomp of the times. Always uniform with each individual using it, the paraph usually consists of a curious swirl of the pen or an intricate flourish, which, when it stands alone, is entirely meaningless to the untrained eye.

Steeped in the culture and charm of the eighteenth century at its very shrine in America—the College of William and Mary—Plummer Jones was well acquainted with the graceful signatures of the great of that era who appended swirls and flourishes to their signed names—names that became immortal in many cases.

The French were inordinately fond of the paraph, and many letters of the eighteenth century, fluent and gracefully worded, were signed in that cryptic manner. Royalty was especially addicted to its use. Madame de Maintenon, first the favorite and later the wife of Louis XIV, as well as Madame de Staël, who hated Napoleon so heartily, signed her letters with paraphs.

A variation of the paraph is the unchanging series of flourishes and curlicues added to a fully lettered signature. Charles Dickens nearly always used such a distinctive accompaniment to his signature, while the paraph of President James Polk was a flourish immediately under and about the full length of his name. That flourish appeared whether he signed a letter, an official document, or an album. Others who have adopted some similar flourish seldom vary it once they start its use.

Some personages of the past, especially women of royal rank, had beautifully designed signatures which added an artistic touch to any document or letter they signed. So it may well be that every Zeta Tau Alpha, as she uses her distinctive signature, is perhaps following the same custom that women of rank and prestige used long years before her. For much of the present is a heritage from the past.

### Supplementary Notes

1. When the Founders and the Reverend Plummer Jones gave this chapter their approval the latter wrote: "I am as well satisfied as I could possibly be that Maud originated the idea of the official signature at the very time we were getting the ritual in line. She had what some term an 'original mind,' and usually led in every discussion or attempt to reach a conclusion. I cannot recall that I had anything definite to do with the actual decision in the matter of the flourish or rubric, although I am satisfied that I was in upon the whole matter. This signature, as it is correctly explained in this chapter, was never intended to be used only in the friendly interchange of letters between members of the organization, and in fraternity papers of one kind or another. To that extent it was originally esoteric."
2. "Some fifty years ago," Dr. Jones wrote in 1952, "letter writing was largely a part of life as lived by educated people. There was no radio, no automobile, no television to take up one's time. College boys and college girls kept in touch with each other, during and after college, with long letters, sometimes a series of letters and chain letters of various sorts. My thought is that Maud had those letters in mind when she designed the distinctive mark in the signature. It was intended, I am sure, largely as a friendly gesture, emphasizing the fact that the writer and the recipient were sorority mates."
3. It is possible that her father's distinctive way of singing his name may have made an indelible impression on Maud Jones. The Reverend Dr. Jones remembered that, "Many of the older generation used some kind of the flourish under their signatures. I remember distinctly what a vast flourish my father always used with his signature, even in his letters to his children. I myself almost unconsciously have used and still use a kind of flourish under my signature." Those who have seen Plummer Jones's signature (here reproduced) in *Themis* will realize how true that statement is.

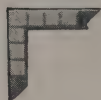
Signature: Plummer Jones.



## Insignia and Heraldry



Badge



Pledge Pin



Coat of Arms

### The Badge

EMBLEMATIC of the sacred vows the wearer has taken, the badge is unquestionably the most cherished object in fraternity symbolism. It is certainly the most personal.

At the time of her initiation, the neophyte is greatly impressed by the beauty and brilliance of the glittering badge which is pinned over her heart. She wears it proudly as a token of her new affiliation, but the shining shield is almost entirely a thing of the present to her. If she thinks at all of the years back of it she thinks back no further than 1898. That the ancestry of the pin goes back to ancient days would scarcely be even a remote thought in her mind. But the origin of the fraternity badge does trace back to prehistoric days and forgotten races when badges served to distinguish tribes, nations and individuals, one from the other. The existence of family badges in Egypt, common to the several dynasties, is but one point of illustration.

However, the origin of fraternity jewelry is usually dated back to the Middle Ages, that picturesque and formative period of history when valiant men considered it their highest duty to help capture and make Jerusalem secure for the Christians. It was during these Crusades when heavily equipped knights marched along the shores of the then-civilized stage, the Mediterranean Sea, that heraldry as we know it came into being as a recognized institution. The necessity for distinctive markings or insignia for chosen leaders in a mass of men all looking alike because of the similarity of their armor, is readily apparent.

At first, the helmet bore some distinctive marking, such as a crudely made rose, an eagle, animal or bird, peculiar to the knight's country, or indicative

of an incident of joust or tourney, or a battle in a distant country. The shield also bore some simple device, a popular one being the cross. A cursory glance at the designs of fraternity badges and coats of arms reveals the popularity of this emblem in its various forms among the fraternities.

Rothery definitely defines the badge as "a cognizance or device, personal or hereditary. Not worn on the helmet or crest, or placed on a wreath, but intended to be borne on clothing and affixed to property. Badges also appeared on armorial standards."\* Standards, of course, were usually flags or pennants. As a rule the badge was single in design, having at least one or two emblems. It was pictorial or emblematic and although it might be armorial, that was chance. It was not governed by rules or laws, and although registration was possible, it had no hereditary value. Furthermore, although that factor has figured heavily thus far, it was not necessarily a result of warfare† as was the coat of arms which it antedates, although, as shown, its development is romantically linked with medieval times.

All of this leads to the origin of the all-important fraternity emblem—the badge. It is thus established that it was nothing more than the badge or "cognizance" of the retainers or retinue of the knights on the field. Names for these retainers were few, and they were known as a part of the army of a certain duke or baron, but if the vassals of a certain lord did not wear some insignia peculiar to him, how could they be told from those of any other lord? Consequently, there was the Tudor rose, the fleur-de-lis, the gyron, the rising sun, all of which were badges of medieval houses and worn by their retainers.

From this, it is easily seen that the badge in heraldry was representative of a group, and in the case of fraternities there is a parallel situation, differing only in the character of the organization itself, the aim and purpose being identical.

The first Greek-letter badge appeared in America in 1776, with the founding of Phi Beta Kappa at the College of William and Mary, in Williamsburg,

\* Gwyllim (a member of the College of Heraldry, living from 1565 to 1621, and one of the earliest writers on heraldry) mentions two kinds of marks, or tokens, namely, a common standard, and one pertaining to the family. The badge always has been, as now, an emblem of personal significance. In early times it denoted possession as well as individual ownership and was, no doubt, popular in the days of illiteracy and previous to the advent of the printing press.

† Another and much less-heard theory advanced is that the fraternity badge, as such, made its first appearance in Scotland, in the brooches worn by the Highlanders to distinguish one clan from the other; and that its predecessor was the gold and silver buttons of the early part of the eighteenth century when the first real secret society appeared and established chapters throughout the empire. These buttons bore the symbols of the order and served as identification, just as the fraternity badge does today.

Virginia. It was secret and remained so until 1831. The Greek letters were the first letters of "Philosophia Biou Kubernetes," or "Philosophy the Pilot (or Guide) of Life." The Greek pattern was used because of the founders' respect and admiration for the beauty, the simplicity, the discipline and the perfection of the philosophy of the ancient Greeks.

When college fraternities first came into existence, the making of their emblems was very much a matter of the individual jeweler's skill. The badges of Phi Beta Kappa and of other fraternities founded afterward, were crudely or skillfully wrought by local jewelers according to local talent, and sometimes there was not even uniformity of the design except in a general way. Practically all badges were purchased locally. In the case of Zeta Tau Alpha (founded in the third and powerful fraternity-expansion wave which was in full swing by 1900), ensuing pages mention the various sized badges that appeared in the early years, many of them being made locally.

These first badges were worn as charms or keys, the idea originating from the key required to wind an old-style watch, but soon they developed into the badge as it is known today. However, it was worn on the necktie or the coat lapel, and in the case of the women's groups, badges were worn as hair ornaments. Pictures of Zeta's Founders and early members often show badges pinned conspicuously to the high collars that were the fashion of the day—as in this picture of Maud Jones Horner. For years those badges were quite large in size compared to later-day ones, and admitted of utilitarian uses instead of being merely ornamental and emblematical.

The badge of Zeta Tau Alpha is an artistically shaped shield with a smaller shield in black enamel raised upon it. In the center is the symbolic five-pointed crown flanked by the initials ZTA. Below, in Greek (Θέμις), is the word



MAUD JONES HORNER

Wearing a ZTA badge on her collar





"EARLY AND PRESENT DAY PINS," pictured in the first *History*.

1. Honor ring. 2. One of the first jewelled (opal) pins with raised center, belonging to Grace Elcan Garnett. Note the three pointed crown. 3. Alice Coleman's beveled edge badge, slightly smaller than the first pins. 4. Frances Y. Smith's early large plain pin, with a five pointed crown, but unraised center. 5. Double letter plain guard. 6. The first pledge pin. 7. The present pledge pin. 8. Bruce Houston Davis' first plain pin, 1899. 9. Mrs. Davis' 1899 jewelled badge. 10. Present size plain pin, and plain, single letter guard. 11. Present day jewelled badge, official size since 1912. 12. One of the early miniature size jewelled badges belonging to Bertha Cruse Gardner, Beta. 13. Crown recognition pin. 14. Single and double letter jewelled guards. 15. Miniature size plain pin belonging to Mary Granger, Theta.

"Themis." The design was suggested by Mebane Smith, but the first orders were given by Maud Jones Horner, Frances Yancey Smith and Mary Campbell Jones<sup>1</sup> Batte, who made the final selection.

After a conference with a local jeweler, they gave the fraternity the pin that has been the treasured possession of every member down through the years. Time has never recorded any changes in design, and in detail there have been



#### PRESENT DAY ZETA INSIGNIA

This grouping of official jewelry shows (upper left), the pledge pin, the crown recognition pin (center), and the monogram recognition pin. In the middle row: the 50-year white violet pin and a plain badge. At left in the lower row: A jewelled chapter guard is attached to a standard pearl badge. At the right the torch guard worn by members of the former Grand Chapter and National Council members is attached to a pearl pin.

only two. The first badges were flat, the center shield was unraised, and the crown had but three points. Before the latter part of 1899, however, the raised shield had appeared, and the points of the crown numbered five.

In size, a surprising number of alterations developed. Human nature never lacks whimsical tastes and fancies and more than one initiate happily chose the size that she preferred—original with her. There were very large badges and some so diminutive that they called forth convention legislation to regulate size and protect the true form of the pin. The regulation size—used continuously since then—was adopted in 1912. The badge used as a model belonged to the fraternity's President, for hers was a 1906 pin, made when the correct shape was a matter of great importance. Of this period Dr. Hopkins wrote:

Up to that time very little attention was paid to the size of the pin. Dress-suit sized pins were the hobby then, and they were much smaller than the present pin. At that time there

was no rule as to size, hence nearly every pin was of a different size. This might not have made so much difference, but the point was that in making the very tiny pins, the size and true form of the pin were lost. Also, the girls were wearing them more as novelty pins and not [as emblems] that had a sacred meaning; one that should be honored.

In the very early days many plain pins had beveled edges (as in the badge of Alice Bland Coleman, which is now in the Historical Collection), while half-stones were often used on jeweled badges. The latter was probably a matter of economy for girls who wanted jewels but had financial restrictions, while the former represented a preferred style of decoration. Alice Coleman's pin (reproduced on page 228) was purchased during the period of beveled-edge popularity.

The first two constitutions specifically prohibited the use of the badge on "other articles excepting the regular [pin] and stick-pin." Prior to that time replicas of the badge often appeared on stationery. Correspondence of a later period (1908) reveals the continued necessity of repeated and firmly worded instructions that the pin was not to be mounted on umbrellas or rings. And a surprising number of young men either wanted to wear the badge as a girl wears a man's fraternity pin, or longed to exchange pins with the Zetas of their dreams. Young love and its pin ideas was not a little exasperating to early officialdom who had to bring the rapidly spreading tendency under control. They did. The files reveal many amusing, but then disconcerting, instances when national officers found it necessary to block the remarkably ingenious and unexpected orders from individuals who could think of an endless number of things on which they wanted to mount the badge.

### The Stick-Pin

The stick-pin, a popular accessory of its day, became such a dim memory that, in time, few even recalled its existence. Even some of the earlier members hardly knew about it or they had forgotten that there ever was an official stick-pin—as official as the badge itself.

However, memories to the contrary, it did exist, and it had its brief but useful day in the era of high collars when stiff linen collars and ties were much in style. Although its function was then the same as that of any other stick-pin, it was sometimes used as a badge. The one pictured here<sup>2</sup> is reproduced in its original size, thus showing that the badge mounted on the stick-pin was one of the diminutive size. The black shield, which is decidedly the most conspicuous portion of it, seems almost totally unraised from the supporting gold shield. In fact, it is really a black shield with a golden edge.

It was uniform in size, though, for each jeweler had only one size for the stick-pin. Its cost—\$1.50—had a practical appeal to girls with a limited amount of spending money. Accordingly, they often used a stick-pin for the first year



or two, later purchasing a jeweled badge. It was not customary for the stick-pin and the badge to be worn at the same time, although many girls owned both.

Gradually the stick-pin began to assume broader uses than were intended. Like similar developments with the badge, they included both the utilitarian and the romantic. Regarded with astonishment in later years, this was nevertheless an era when pins were exchanged with fiancés and consequently, quite in the mode, Zeta's official stick-pin was occasionally used in that manner. Men invariably wore stick-pins in their ties then. Not only were they *de rigueur*, but a man was hardly considered properly dressed without one. What happened next in the romantic exchange of stick-pins was inevitable.

Girls received and wore flowers a great deal in those days. The stick-pin was pressed into use to pin on flowers; indeed its career began to be more useful than symbolical, although that was not always the case by any means. But the trend and instances were numerous enough to signal the demise of a piece of insignia related directly to the styles of an era, and which likely would have been miscast or unusable when women's fashions changed.

Thus, not unexpectedly, the stick-pin was soon eliminated from the official class, and one official badge was decided upon. But the experiences of the previous years had left their imprint and taught their lessons, so steps were taken accordingly. The clear and firm stipulation that no one but a regularly initiated member of the fraternity shall be permitted to wear the badge, stems from this period. It was also specified that the badge was not to be used on any novelty.<sup>3</sup> The initials ZTA, or the unofficial coat of arms,<sup>4</sup> were suggested as effective substitutes. Soon these stipulations were accepted as traditionally as the unwritten rule that the badge shall never be put to a utilitarian use, but shall always be held exclusively emblematical.



Early Official  
Stick-pin

### The Pledge Pin

Since the Greek novitiates were pledged with ribbons—a custom that has survived with the present-day Greeks—it is not surprising that there were no pledge pins in the beginning. A small bow of white ribbon, or of the combined colors of the fraternity, served then as “a definite proclamation of the wearer's chosen allegiance to Themis and her court.”

At a date not accurately determinable, but undoubtedly in the year 1906, a five-pointed crown bearing the initials ZTA, was designated in the second constitution as the official pledge pin. Its use, however, was neither universal nor consistent throughout the fraternity, due, perhaps, to the disappointing

fact that the pin manufactured did not conform to the design set forth in the constitution. This first pledge pin<sup>5</sup> pictured on page 228, is a gold, diamond-shaped stick-pin bearing a red enamel shield upon which appears the five-pointed crown outlined in gold. This interpretation fell far short of the design intended. Therefore, while some of the pins were in use, they can hardly be called official because they were not correct, were never adopted and instead, the 1908 convention appointed a committee to select a new design.

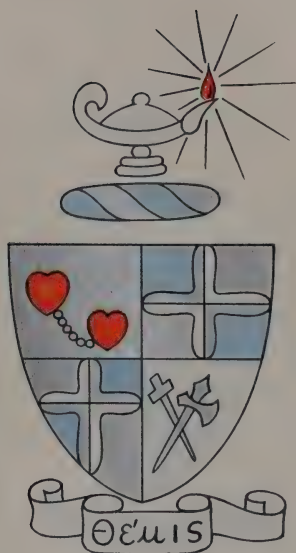
After some delay, due to the inactivity of the committee, three members of Grand Chapter, Bruce Houston (Davis), May Agness Hopkins and Lillian Baird (Bradley) met at the home of Mrs. Davis and decided upon the design that became Zeta's own from then on. The symbolical carpenter's square in silver (made in gold until changed to silver by the 1912 convention), faced with turquoise blue enamel with silver markings, was accepted by the 1910 convention, and ever since has been one of the most unusual and distinctive pledge pins in the fraternity world.

But, conforming to changing times and tastes, it too, was to undergo a change. While the size of the official Zeta badge was established at the 1912 convention, the pledge pin which had been adopted at the Galveston meeting remained unchanged in dimensions. For eighteen years then, or until the 1928 meeting, no change was made. As time went on and style and convenience favored a more diminutively sized pledge symbol, the fraternity expressed a general desire for a smaller pledge pin. As a consequence, the 1928 Canadian convention adopted a "seven-sixteenths" size. "The adopted recommendation specified that each arm of the pledge pin be reduced from the present length to seven-sixteenths," and that size became regulation.

The chapter guard, much discussed with earnestness pro and con at several conventions, was finally selected as a national prerogative at the 1915 meeting. Not being a requirement, but an authorized privilege, the use of a guard is purely optional.<sup>6</sup> Indicating the chapter to which the member belongs, this guard is the only pin that may be attached to a Zeta badge. This latter stipulation—definite and mandatory—is also a convention ruling which forbids the chaining of fraternity pins or other insignia to the Zeta badge.

Since 1926, the members of Grand Chapter (and after 1941 the members of National Council) have been distinguishable by the distinctive torch guards attached to their badges. Authorized to do so in 1926, the members of Grand Chapter selected the design in 1927, and the guard was available soon after that. The guards are the lifetime possessions of those qualified to wear them, and they are worn by retired, as well as by active officers.

The fraternity's first recognition pin, adopted in 1923, is a graceful, diminutive gold crown with five points. Its description is almost identical with that of the



#### FIRST COAT OF ARMS DRAWN

This coat of arms contributed by Clair Woodruff Bugg, was the first one ever drawn for Zeta Tau Alpha. It was used as the outside cover for the favors at the first national convention in 1903. It was the work of Ethelynn Jones (Guppey), sister of Maud Jones Horner.

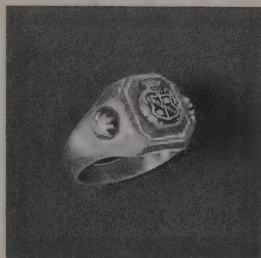




#### VIGNETTE IN COLORS

This drawing of the vignette still found on the charter virtually served as a coat of arms until the adoption of the 1908 arms. It was taken from a water color found in the files of Delta chapter, and it differs in many details from the black and white sketch of the vignette which more closely resembles the drawing on the charter. This original water color is now in the Historical Collection.

first proposed pledge pin described in the early constitution, but no similarity resulted in the finished product. Banquet favors at the 1946 convention were the miniature monogram recognition pins authorized at the meeting. After that, the Zetas could choose either a crown or a monogram. Correctly worn on the lapel of a coat, the recognition pin's mission is to identify members to each other when they meet as strangers. Since, as a matter of good taste, the official badge is never worn on a coat, the recognition pin serves as identification.



THE HONOR RING

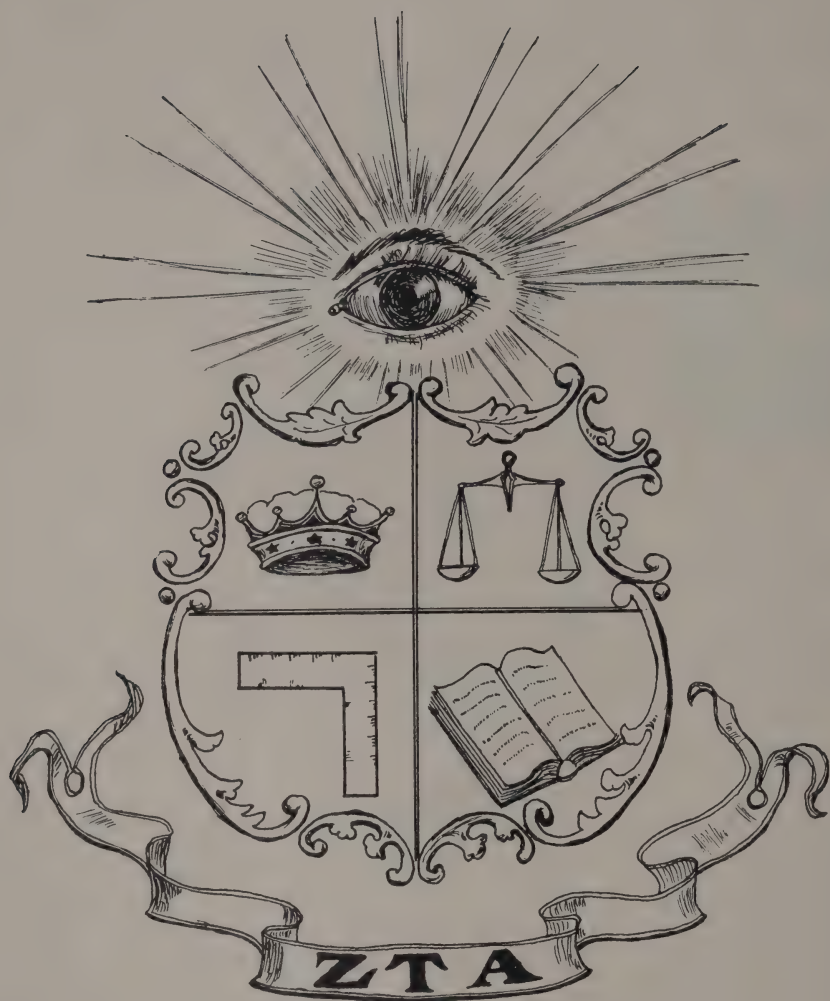
An alumnæ ring (known as the honor ring), the design for which was accepted at the 1915 convention, is awarded at conventions to those who have done definite, distinctive work for the fraternity since leaving college. Since the 1926 convention, a point system has governed the selection of honorees and that system has been revised from time to time. Presentations are made only at national conventions, and until 1926 the ring was purchased by the honoree. Since then it has been presented as an award from the national organization. The ring is obtainable in silver or gold optionally and is oblong-octagonal in shape. Upon the turquoise mounting rests the coat of arms, while on one side is an open book and on the other a five-pointed crown, both in relief.

After the 1950 convention voted to confer the Order of the Shield upon those who had been members for fifty years, a graceful little white violet pin was made available to the fifty-year Zetas, in addition to the certificate presented by the national organization. Two green leaves are at the base of the true five-petaled Virginia white violet, the lower petal of which bears the figure 50. Graceful and attractive, the pin is of enamel. When it was introduced *Themis* said, "It is a delightful addition to Zeta's insignia, and since the honored members cannot carry their certificates around with them, the white violet emblem will undoubtedly be most popular." The pin, whose acquisition is optional, may be worn as a guard, a recognition pin, or in other ways.

Zeta Tau Alpha has no official jewel, but no badge may be set with a combination of more than two stones. The latter ruling was brought about by convention action after astonished officers saw a badge made up of all different stones.

### The Coat of Arms

The story of the coat of arms traces straight to a romantically mantled age when knighthood was in flower. Heraldry, which developed in the picturesque days of chivalry, speaks a language of its own, unfolding for those who can read it, stories of valor, history and high ideals. And one wants to know



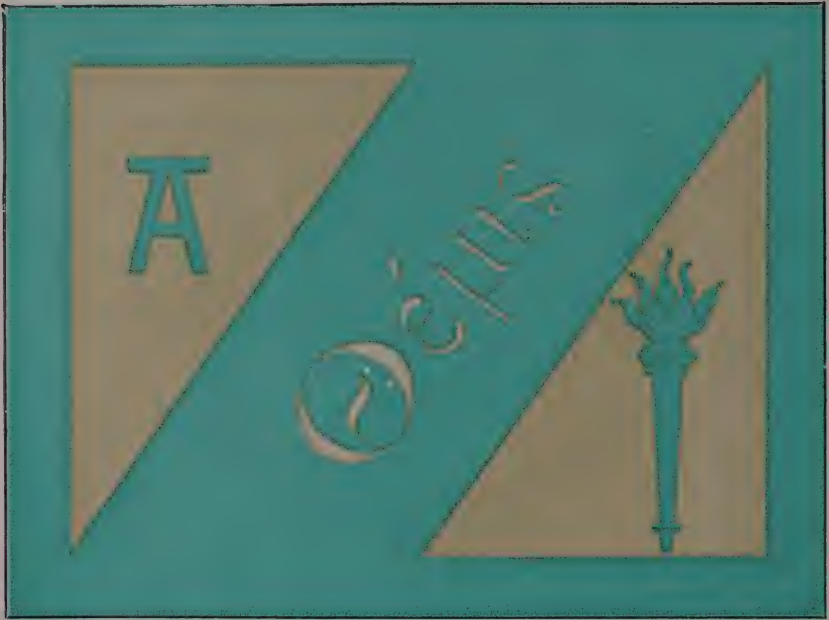
#### THE VIGNETTE

A reproduction of a vignette found in a file of early material. The position of the carpenter's square, which is wrong, is particularly interesting, but it will be noted that the same position is to be found on the vignette pictured on the charter. In fact, this is an exact replica, even to the shield formed by ornamental parts, that is found in the symbolic vignette which forms so prominent a part of the charter.





THE OFFICIAL COAT OF ARMS SINCE 1927.



THE OFFICIAL BANNER OF ZETA TAU ALPHA

something about the period and science that directly or indirectly gave us our coat of arms. For the American college fraternity, it is said, perhaps unknowingly, but nevertheless surely, has perpetuated and revived one of the most picturesque subjects in history. Few indeed are the personal coats of arms used in this country. But among fraternity members there is extensive use of coats of arms which they, as members of the family, are permitted to use.

When did the coat of arms make its *début* on the stage of history? Its study can reach massive proportions. But first attempts to ascertain its antiquity encounter a certain confusion that arises from two different interpretations of the word *heraldry*. Some consider it synonymous with mere symbolism, while others reduce it to an exact science. The latter is the one usually chosen. By its adoption an exact history is made possible. Its interpretation is that heraldry as a science became such when laws were laid down for its guidance, and when the adopted symbols were recognized as being hereditary.\*

On the other hand, ancient authorities whose interpretation may rightly be said to be that of symbolism, claim extreme antiquity for heraldry. Gwyllim credits Janus and Hercules with originating the system, and it is startling to the novice researcher to discover that the pedigree of the Saxon kings in the College of Arms, in London, displays the armorial bearings of Noah† and Japhet. However, in the opinion of Charles Boutell, M.A., an authority on the subject, the theory of the extremely ancient origin of heraldry held by medieval writers has long been discarded, and arms such as those attributed to Noah, Adam and Eve, Judas, Pontius Pilate, mythical British kings and Anglo-Saxon monarchs before the Norman conquest, are no longer put forth as genuine.

Accepting either interpretation, all authorities are agreed upon one point and that is, that the absolute origin of heraldry cannot be traced. It is conceded that its introduction was coeval with the use of armor in the Middle Ages, when it became necessary for men to be able to distinguish each other as friend or foe while engaged in battle. Gallant warriors then adorned their shields with distinguishing marks and decorated their helmets with crests. The Crusades, uniting the north and west of Europe with the mysterious and symbol-loving Orient, increased the use and systematic formation of heraldic emblems, and heraldry, as an exact science, made its introduction with the

\* In the rules governing inheritance the eldest son could inherit, at his father's death, the coat of arms almost as originally as adopted, but any succeeding son found it necessary to make some distinguishing alteration in it. For instance, the second son employed the crescent, the third son a mullet or star, and so on.

† Gwyllim describes the armor of Osyris, grandson of Noah, as "a Septre Royal ensigned on top with an eye."



beginning of the thirteenth century.\* But unquestionably feudalism gave remarkable impetus to heraldry. The arms of the lord to whom they had sworn allegiance were carried by the dependent family, although alterations were made in the shield to indicate difference in station.

Heraldic bearings have been employed by various nations with more or less definite rulings, but in England peculiar laws and provisions achieved a scientific and settled basis for the science. Henry V seems to have been the real patron. Thereafter, the acquisition of a coat of arms required an official procedure and sanction. A wishful individual could not just assume one for himself. Henry V forbade the practice of assumed armorial seals without the permission of the King or his herald,† and when Edward VI reinstated the heralds he placed England in the position of maintaining the symbols of heraldry in a purity and correctness surpassing other countries.

It is a curious circumstance that the earliest and best symbols of heraldry are directly attributable to lack of learning. Had it not been for the fact that few people could write and therefore found it necessary to have authentic deeds and often legal papers marked by a seal, there would have been no records of earlier ensigns. These, however, were not drawings. The earliest arms of English nobles and knights, drawn according to the rules observed in the College of Heralds, are long strips of parchment containing a full description of the arms. They bear the date of 1240. This further shows that it was the blazonry,‡ the description of the coat of arms, that was chosen in the olden days, not the pictorial representation, for it was the actual shield itself that the man carried, and from time to time he would change that shield, discarding it for other styles and shapes.

In time, the use of arms was not confined to individuals, but was adopted by guilds, colleges, corporations, towns and even inns. In America the use of armorial devices that most nearly conforms to the recognized and historic principles of the science is that employed by the American college fraternity. In the science of heraldry, however, a woman did not carry a helmet, and her coat of arms was placed in a "lozenge," either oval or diamond in form. That the women's Greek-letter organizations have not generally recognized

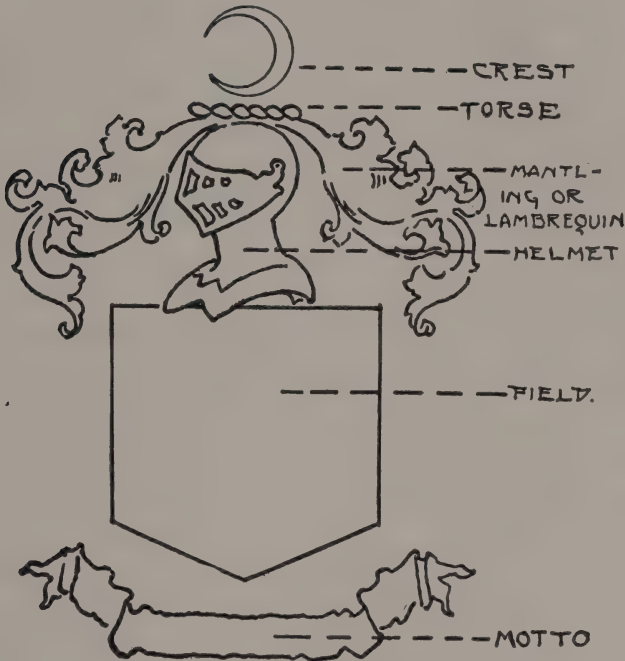
\* One authority has remarked that while some are ready to blazon the arms of Adam and Eve, there are an equal number ready to begin at the twelfth century. Some maintain that heraldry was not in existence at the time of the Norman conquest nor at the time of the Crusades, although they agree that certain devices resembling modern coats of arms were used from early ages.

† The first two heralds of note in England were Norray and Surray, appointed by Edward I.

‡ Two terms in the technical language of heraldry are easily confused. "To blazon" means to express, in the phraseology of heraldry, a given design. "To emblazon" means to represent graphically, either in color or by the system of "indicative lining" peculiar to the science. It was the blazonry, the description of the arms, which was chosen at this period.

this is an added reason for likening the fraternity use of heraldic devices to that of the guild or similar organizations.

Analyzing the various parts of a coat of arms—it contains a crest, torse or crest wreath, mantling or lambrequin, helmet, field and motto. These are named in the order in which they come. In heraldry the shield is always blazoned (expressed) first. The story of the evolution of the arms is this:



VARIOUS PARTS OF A  
COAT OF ARMS

When a victorious warrior returned he hung his shield in the great hall and placed his helmet just above it. The shield,\* which was so much a part of the

\* It was always considered good form to carry the shield alone, without the motto or crest, or it might have the helmet above and the motto below. The crest also might be carried alone. Therefore, today, it is permissible to do the same. It was always proper to display the crest of an armorial device separate from the shield and vice versa, but this custom has not been followed to any extent by Greek-letter organizations. The helmet is never considered a part of the crest and while the crest alone might be displayed with it, no ruling permits the placing of the helmet above the torse or below the shield. It would be in keeping with heraldic custom to use the crest, including the torse, alone, without the shield. Again, the shield and crest might be employed from an heraldic standpoint without the helmet.

The embodying of a badge in a crest, or on a field, was almost never found in historic heraldry. A man might wear a badge of some order or guild, but he would display the arms of that guild, which were distinct from the personal emblem.

individual that it was considered and even named after a human being, is called the "field." Around the helmet the warrior wound his lady's colors, a torse or "crest wreath" representing the ribbon of olden days. The torse is correctly shown when it is composed of six rolls, alternating in the two prominent colors of the shield which are, for Zeta Tau Alpha, gray and blue. To make the helmet distinct, so that a leader could be distinguished in the thickest of the fray, the warrior placed feathers, a stuffed bird, or some other device on his helmet. This decoration was called the crest. Mantling, although not necessary, was always permitted in regulation heraldry. One of the many legendary sources originally represented it as a cloth flowing about the back of the helmet, while later it was often represented as having been hacked in encounters, fluttering about in all directions. It was then called a lambrequin, and it proclaimed an honorable and courageous record. The motto used in connection with the family arms was originally the war cry, but in later years it became the ideal or characteristic of the family.

Heraldry has a phraseology that is as unintelligible to the average person as Greek. It is a language of its own. A technical description of a coat of arms is a hopeless jumble to one not familiar with the science. Then why, the question is frequently asked, is this phraseology employed instead of using a simple English description? The answer is that the science has its own language; they are not separable. An engraver or student of the subject can understand with a single sentence a description that would take several paragraphs if put into English.

Zeta Tau Alpha has had several coats of arms—the first two being virtually unknown to more than a handful of Virginians before the publication of Volume I of the first *History of Zeta Tau Alpha* in 1928.

The first record of any attempt to furnish a coat of arms for the courageous new fraternity is here pictured in the colorful design drawn for, and used at, the first national convention in 1903. It was the work of Ethelynn Jones (Guppey), sister of Maud Jones Horner, and it was probably inspired by some family coat of arms or sentiment expressed through heraldic means, for it embodied little that was symbolical of the fraternity. Apparently, it was never used again.

The second coat of arms was not known by that name. Instead it was called the "vignette," the terms being used interchangeably. Alpha records reveal an early request from Delta for a "die of the vignette," while Kappa chapter, at one convention, asked about the use of the vignette (found on the charter) on stationery.

This interchangeableness of the terms vignette and coat of arms could be thoroughly confusing, especially since the former eventually came to have an entirely different meaning to the Zeta world, which for decades has had its own Zeta-ized—to coin a word—interpretation. The general definition of the



word in its dictionary meaning is—a small engraving. A study of other meanings is interesting and illuminating.

According to the second constitution, "the coat of arms shall be that described in the vignette." The vignette was the design found on the charter drawn in 1903. While its heraldic accuracy never came under scrutiny, its symbolism is evident. Mrs. Davis was one of the authorities for the statement that the vignette, the drawing that still appears on charters exclusively, was the first and original coat of arms, but it was officially adopted in no way except through its acceptance by the 1903 convention as a part of the charter design. Interestingly enough, the crown pictured on the charter is the original one of three points. The vignette reproduced here was found in the files of Delta chapter. Now in the Historical Collection, it is the only color drawing of that period in existence.

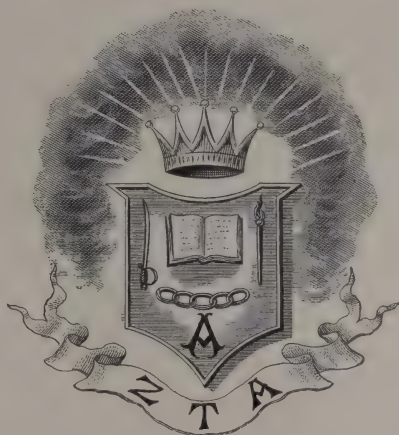
But time was marching on. The vignette was not the true coat of arms that the fraternity came to want. They said so. Accordingly, the next coat of arms, which was used practically nineteen years, was adopted at the 1908 meeting. The design was submitted by Grace Jordan (Cook). Eleven years later two designations were decided upon which gave Zeta Tau Alpha an *official* and an *unofficial* coat of arms.

The official coat of arms was the design adopted by the 1908 convention. It followed accurately the original dimensions and design. It was to be used in college annuals and wherever practicable. It was surmounted by the effective, but hard to reproduce cloud, and a radiant crown.



PRE-1926 COAT OF ARMS IN OUTLINE.

This was the version known as the unofficial coat of arms.



OFFICIAL COAT OF ARMS  
FROM 1908-1926

The unofficial coat of arms came into being because of the difficulty in outlining the cloud satisfactorily in reduced dimensions. In an attempt to overcome this handicap several inaccuracies had occurred, so it was considered expedient to authorize some modified form for use on novelties. Therefore, the 1919 convention approved a smaller sized coat of arms in outline (making no attempt to include the cloud) for such novelties as stationery, programs, menus, et cetera. Thus evolved the terms *official* and *unofficial* coat of arms as applied to the two arms familiar to all Zetas of the pre-1926 era. Probably no other fraternity of the time had two such arms.

With the problem of reproducing the cloud solved by its omission in one of the arms, things moved along until the Historian's research in 1925 for the forthcoming *History* turned up a disconcerting fact. The coat of arms did not conform to the recognized principles of heraldry. It was not in accord with the ancient rules of heraldry, and could not be described or translated in heraldic terms. Volume I of the first *History of Zeta Tau Alpha*<sup>7</sup> explained the development as follows:

"In connection with the permission, given [the Historian] by the 1926 convention for correcting the coat of arms according to the rules of heraldry, the following quotation from [a] Greek heraldry expert is . . . appropriate:

With fraternities, there are in the main two groups of insignia roughly classed as coats of arms. There is the type frequently artistic and pleasing, fulfilling the requirements of the fraternity that displays it, yet designed in accordance with so few of the rules which govern the forming of heraldic devices as to scarcely be classed as a coat of arms. The designs of this class are rather a collection of symbols and signs grouped in the form or within the outline of a shield, yet assembled regardless of the science of heraldry.

The question is occasionally asked why there is any objection to the first type of design, why symbolism should not be used in any form desired? There is no law, as in England, governing the compilation or registration of such designs, but close observation will show that the most artistic proportions are obtained where the rules of heraldry are followed. Also, if heraldry be the language of emblems adopted, attention should be given to the rules of grammar. An entire disregard for the laws of heraldry is as unwise a use of symbolism as though a fraternity were known by the Greek letters corresponding to the initials in an English sentence.

"Briefly," the account continued, "it was found that the 1908 coat of arms fell into the class of an artistic grouping of symbols, designed in accordance with very few of the rules of heraldry. Despite the fact that these arms had grown dear to the fraternity, it was felt that the wisest course was immediate correction. Convention, therefore, voted the necessary authorization. The design was to be selected by the National Historian and approved by Grand Chapter." Although the designing and achievement of a new coat of arms along correct heraldic lines was a major undertaking involving careful planning, "it was ready by the end of 1926 and the January, 1927, issue of *Themis* published the first lovely reproduction in color."

Thus, in a matter of months Zeta Tau Alpha came into possession of a beautiful and accurate coat of arms<sup>8</sup>—its fifth and last. This arms has an heraldic design enveloped with beauty, courage and ideals; it is artistic in its simplicity, distinctive in the fraternity world, correct from the standpoint of the rules governing heraldry, yet its detailed symbolisms are safely hidden away in the minds and hearts of Zeta Tau Alphas.

The technical description of the coat of arms is: Quarterly argent and azure; in two and three a cinquefoil of the first; nine billets in bend sable. Crest:



Above a crown (radiate) or, a chain of five links fess-wise argent. Motto: Zeta Tau Alpha in Greek upper and lower case.

Designed in the beginning, the seal of the fraternity was adopted at the 1903 convention. It is circular (with fluted edges) in form, bears the name of the organization, and the date and place of founding. Further, according to an early constitution, it "shall have attached when used on a charter, the colors of the fraternity." At one time each chapter was permitted to have its own seal.<sup>9</sup> The one reproduced here was from a number found in the effects left by Maud Jones Horner. The envelope in which they had been kept bore a 1902 postmark.

In that same envelope of cherished fraternity mementos was a strip of unfaded turquoise blue ribbon, the true and glorious shade that the Founders used. The design for the official charter was also adopted at the 1903 convention after it was submitted by Bruce Houston Davis, under whose direction Francis T. Reeve, of Waterbury, Connecticut, made the drawing. Although, in 1918, some changes were planned, none was made. The charter stands unaltered.



THE FIRST SEAL

This one, used by Maud Jones Horner, is identical with the present seal.



BERTHA CRUSE GARDNER  
Zeta Tau Alpha's Betsy Ross, in 1910.

In the college girl's room of several decades ago nothing was more typical of the chafing dish and fudge era than the amount of wall space allotted to her fraternity banner. It was usually much in evidence along with assorted sofa pillows.

Previous to 1910 these banners were expressions of chapter and individual personal taste, and for the most part they were pennants bearing the Greek initials ZTA. But as national development gave the urge for uniformity in insignia, the adoption of an official flag was suggested. The first banner was made by Bertha Cruse (Gardner), Beta.

Commissioned by the President<sup>10</sup> (who sent a memorandum of symbols previously selected and approved at a Grand Chapter



meeting), Mrs. Gardner worked out, or designed, the banner which she made<sup>11</sup> for presentation at the 1910 convention. It is described as a rectangular field bordered on all sides with turquoise blue. The inner rectangle holds three divisions; the upper left section is a triangle of steel gray, containing a large A of turquoise blue; the central division is a rhombus of blue across which are the letters  $\theta\epsilon\mu\iota\varsigma$  in steel gray; while the lower right-hand corner completes the rectangle with another triangle of steel gray on which is pictured a burning torch.

Said the February, 1911, *Themis*,

There is no need to dwell upon the symbolism of the banner. Every Zeta Tau Alpha sees at a glance the message the banner would keep constantly before her eyes. There is no need to emphasize our duty to the colors. We see them reflected in the tints of Nature herself, and their beauty we need not attempt to transfer to felt and silk, in order to give us realization of our allegiance to them. We do not ask loyalty to our banner. We expect it, as a nation expects loyalty to her battle flag and love and reverence for her flag at peace.



THE OFFICIAL FLAG ADOPTED AT THE 1950 CONVENTION. To individualize it, the Greek letter or letters of the chapter flying the flag appear in the left-hand corner. The coat of arms is placed on a steel-gray field bordered with a band of turquoise blue.

An official flag was adopted at the 1950 convention from entries submitted in a flag design contest, which was won by Gamma Epsilon. On the flag the words *Zeta Tau Alpha* gracefully surmount a coat of arms placed on a steel gray field bordered with a band of turquoise blue. The name of the chapter flying the flag appears in the left-hand corner. Mainly acquired for outside decoration, its use is for those times when a flag is needed, and is appropriate.

The fact that Zeta Tau Alpha had no secret motto for twenty-three years was traceable to the inadvertent publication, in the November, 1905, *Themis*, of the translation of the Greek motto ζήτει τὰ ἄριστα, which was adopted at the time of founding. Converting an unfortunate incident into an asset, the 1910 convention authorized its use as an open motto, and appointed a committee to submit a new secret one. At that time, "Seek the Noblest," became Zeta Tau Alpha's open motto. The subject of a secret motto came up at several conventions, but at the 1919 convention the final decision of the Ritual Committee was in the negative, so it was dropped for several years. But the desire for a secret motto persisted. The subject was reopened in 1928 when upon the request of Grand Chapter, the Custodian of Greek Names submitted several suggested mottoes, one of which was officially adopted as the new secret motto.

The grip which the fraternity knows so well was submitted to the 1908 convention by Grace Jordan Cook. It was adopted by that body.

### *The White Violet*

"Winds wander, and dews drip earthward;  
Rains fall, and suns rise and set;  
Earth whirls, and all but to prosper  
A little White Violet."

—LOWELL

Someway the story back of the selection of the colors and the official flower fits beautifully into its particular Virginia setting. Telling that story as the Founders told it to her, the author of Volume I of the first *Zeta History* wrote:

"The original turquoise blue and steel gray, and the white violet, have been handed down to the present Zeta Tau Alpha as an unaltered heritage from the Founders. The selections were made by Ruby Leigh (Orgain). The white violet, which grows in such luxuriant profusion in Virginia, fragile yet buoyant with its message of spring and new hopes, is dear to all Zeta Tau Alphas. Sweetly reminiscent of the days of gentler generations, symbolic of the ideals of the Founders, the violet seems doubly appropriate and meaningful today, but aside from its traditional acceptance as an emblem of purity, Ruby Leigh had a deeper reason for her choice.

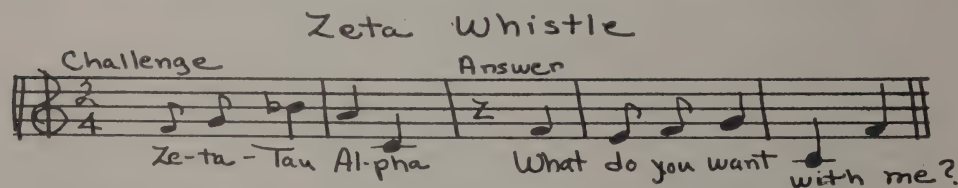
"The Greeks," she explained, 'chose the modest violet for their emblem,

and it bore for many years the name of Badge of Athens. *Ion* is the Greek name for violet, and the Greek *ion* was supposed to be a talisman guarding against evil.' Thus a flower denoting purity was chosen for its anciently endowed protective powers, or by another interpretation, for the power of purity."

At one time the constitution permitted each chapter to "select its own individual flower for decoration," but a convention ruling early discontinued that practice. Individual chapter flowers have been unknown for years.

Through the years many intriguing stories were woven on surmise about the derivation of Zeta's rich colors. None was more prevalent or romance-tinged than the supposed combining of the gray of the Confederacy with the blue of the Union, denoting the establishment of peace and harmony. But the oft-told tale is a myth, a fanciful figment of the imagination. Besides, it is no myth that countless southern girls of that time grew to womanhood supposing that damn-yankee was one word. Actually, emblematical significances again dominated the choice of the Founders. The turquoise, an emblem of prosperity, suggested the blue of the chosen colors, and embodied the hopes of that early day for the success of the little organization. Steel gray, denoting the qualities familiar to all Zetas, followed as an inevitable companion, forming a perfect harmonization of color.

Simultaneously with Zeta's founding the early members promptly adopted a lusty yell—without which no fraternity could hold up its head in the late nineteenth century—but it was a little while before they got around to an official whistle. For many years this tuneful call has been Zeta's official whistle:



Accredited to Kappa chapter, the whistle is taken from the closing bars of the lovely song "Absent," the words being changed from "Thinking I hear thee call," to "Zeta Tau Alpha." Said the earlier *History of Zeta Tau Alpha*, "The wistful answer to 'thinking I hear thee call' sounding appealingly over a night-shrouded campus, becomes a gently questioning 'what do you want with me?' as the returning call floats back." So it was in the days when quieter, less hurried campuses were more familiar with intermittently heard fraternity whistles than in the swift-moving twentieth century that uses them much less often. And knows not that they were an inseparable part of everyday living then.

Said the July, 1911, *Themis* in explanation:

As Epsilon gave to Zeta Tau Alpha the national call, so, from just such an instance of the deep influence of Zeta upon the thoughts of her daughters did Kappa lay her



nursling, the national whistle, in the arms of its foster-mother. So much a part of its inherited possessions has the whistle become, that possibly very few girls remember how it came to them.

It was the first birthday of Kappa, when one of the Zeta pledges was sitting on the campus with an older sister . . . commenting, as school girls will, upon everything passing around them. Several times their attention was attracted by whistling from different parts of the campus, and each call seemed followed by an answer and a more personal word or signal. The little pledge grew puzzled.

"You have never taught me the ZTA whistle!"

"We have none," answered her companion, "and I believe it is because no one has found a whistle which seemed to leave the right impression as a call for ZTA." The conversation changed.

Somewhere beyond the campus someone was playing a cornet, and occasional familiar strains reached the girls. The closing bars of "Absent" drifted across the bluebonnets, when suddenly, as if prompted by a simultaneous idea, the two girls looked at each other and smiled as the one turned the familiar "Thinking I hear thee" into "Zeta Tau Alpha" and a similar inspiration caused the other to hum "What do you want with me?" instead of the former "Thinking I hear thee call." They proudly cherished their discovery until the 1908 convention offered every ZTA the summons for an "absent sister."

### The Bugle Call

Early accounts make it evident that no matter how gentle the girls of that day, one of the first things they provided for and proceeded to use with all the treble gusto their feminine throats and lungs could generate, was an enthusiastic yell. Since the Founders' first "razzle dalpha" seemed to get no farther than Virginia, Zeta Tau Alpha has no officially adopted yell or cheer, but she does have a national call. Epsilon chapter was its author. Known as the Bugle Call, it is an adaptation of the call used by the local Delta Phi before it became Zeta's Arkansas chapter. Both the bugle call and the whistle were accepted by the 1908 convention.

In the July, 1911, issue of *Themis*, an Epsilon alumna told "how this little call came to belong to Zeta Tau Alpha."

"It was a rainy, cold Saturday night," she recounted,

but in spite of the weather, Epsilon had gathered by the cheery chapter room fire for her weekly meeting. We were twice happy . . . because we had with us a visiting alumna who had organized our chapter in its career as the local Delta Phi. Epsilon holds always an especial affection for Delta Phi, which had striven so mightily to make Zeta Tau Alpha possible to us. And so we gathered, after the meeting, and begged our older sister for something of the early days. Gladly she related the struggles and play-times, and told how Delta Phi finally became Epsilon of Zeta Tau Alpha. We demanded more—and she told us of one tie that bound Delta Phi closely, that rang its message across the campus every day, and she sang the words which the girls had set to the familiar assembly call. This relic of the past was too good to lose. At once we set about adapting it to present need. Long we labored with refractory rhymes and rhythms, but when Epsilon went home that night, it was to keep step to the Bugle Call, welded to the words that stir our hearts with memories and hopes, and set us smiling with the very pride of loyalty.

## THE HISTORY OF ZETA TAU ALPHA

Pre-World War I Zetas know these notes better than succeeding generations:

Zeta Huggle Call

Oh, Ze-ta Tau, dear Ze-ta Tau,

Best old Frat. erni-ty ev-er you saw

Vio-lets are white, colors grey and blue,

Girls are all love-ly, loy-al and true

Rah! Rah! Rah, Rah, Rah, Rah, Ray, Ze-ta,

Zeta ta, Z-T A, Ze-ta Tau Al-pha Z-T-A

### Supplementary Notes

1. The first jeweled pin was owned by Cammie Jones.
  2. This pin was given to the Historical Collection by Hellen Patrick (Cruse), Beta. Her sister, Mary Patrick, Beta, gave it to her when she was initiated.
  3. This definite ruling remained in the constitution until the printing of the 1919 constitution.
  4. This referred to the two designations indicated for the coat of arms previous to the adoption of the new arms in 1926. As explained in this chapter, the unofficial coat of arms came about because of the impossibility of printing the official arms in miniature size, and still keeping it correct in detail.
  5. Presented to the Historical Collection by Mary Patrick, Beta, this rare first pledge pin is one of the very few still in existence.
  6. In some chapters guards were long the exception rather than the rule. This was especially true in some parts of the South.
  7. Volumes I and II of the first *History of Zeta Tau Alpha*, by Shirley K. Krieg Strout.
  8. The thorough January, 1927, Grand Chapter meeting decided that the best place for the replaced coat of arms was in the archives of the individual chapters. Thus in later years puzzled generations of officers who had never known the old arms scrutinized it wonderingly and questioned what it was.
  9. A few fraternities have a system of permitting individual arms for each chapter, each resembling the other, but conforming to a fixed ruling. This plan closely resembled the old method, in principle at least, of "differencing." The various members of a house bore the paternal or maternal arms under certain conditions, subject to various changes or additions. These were controlled by a system of rules called "differencing."
- The above is interesting, for although the former habit of chapter seals is taken up while considering the national seal, there is every possibility that the word "seal" used in the records referred to a coat of arms for each chapter. There is no record, however, of either.
10. The inactivity of the same committee appointed by the 1908 convention to select a new pledge pin accounted for the banner being left to Grand Chapter. See the 1910 convention minutes.
  11. See the 1910 convention minutes.





## *The Glory of Greece*

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OUR CLASSICAL historical heritage is a vast and valuable treasure. It consists of the contribution in ideas and ideals of a number of civilizations. These contributions represent a culture which elevates and maintains man above the savage state.

During the entire history of mankind there have not been more than ten civilizations. They are the rarest and greatest achievements of human society, and while there have been many societies, there have been but a few civilizations. Civilizations are created by the spirit of man. They are a collective social and spiritual work of art.

The goal of a true education is to study the history of civilizations and to make them so intimate a part of our understanding that we may draw upon them for the thought, culture and wisdom of the past.

The path of man's progress has not been a smooth one. Instead, his history has been recorded in a series of rises and declines in civilizations in widely scattered parts of the world.

The Greeks developed an incomparable civilization that was touched almost by divine inspiration. They were a people of rare creative genius. They created a golden age which bestowed upon the world the loftiest ideals of beauty—in literature and art, in philosophy and ethics, in science and in politics.

There is still a charm in the name of ancient Greece. There is glory on every page of her history; there is a fascination in the remains of her literature. The sense of beauty in her works of art is unapproachable. There is a strange fascination in her ruins. And there is not in all the land a mountain, plain, or a river, nor a fountain, grove or wood, that is not hallowed by some legend or poetic tale.

The qualities that characterized Greek life and thought have marked its civilization as not confined to any special time or race, but destined for all times, in all climes and among all races. Works of art, sculpture and painting, architecture, drama, history and philosophy that were created during the age of Pericles, from 460 to 400 B.C., have been unapproached in succeeding ages. This period developed a pinnacle of culture in intellectual, physical and spiritual development. So great was the glory that was Greece that in two short centuries she produced more men of extraordinary genius than all of the rest of Europe and Asia together produced in a thousand years.

In this civilization the Greek spirit sought to realize truth, to develop wisdom, to fashion beauty, to resist fear and suffering, to be courageous and brave, each man giving and taking only that which was his due.

The Greek fraternity was a part of this golden era of development. Reflecting the glory of its age, the fraternity of those ancient Greeks consisted of persons of high ideals associated together for the purpose of promoting friendships and the welfare of its members. The old Athenian pledge—the pledge of its citizens—was:

I will never forsake my sacred arms,  
never forsake my comrades in arms.  
I will fight for the sacred temples and common welfare  
whether alone or with others.  
I will leave my country in a better state than I have found it.  
I will obey the magistrates and laws and defend them against attack  
and I will honor the religion of my country.

In this age, Greece was a recognized queen—queen of the Mediterranean and leader of the known world.

Her artists were Phidias, Praxiteles, Apelles and Zeuxis; her poets were Homer, Pindar, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides; her philosophers were Socrates, Plato and Epicurus. Her statesmen and orators were Pericles and Demosthenes; her historians were Herodotus, Thucydides, Polybius and Xenophon, while her mathematicians, Archimedes and Euclid, survived the centuries to become household words.

This glorious civilization that immortalized Greece was the result of spiritual forces that shaped the character and activities of man. It was a civilization dominated by mind, wherein the spirit of man triumphed over his material surroundings. This was true from 1100 B.C. to 700 A.D., a period of almost two thousand years.

But a change crept in. The character of the country became subject to other forces, and the glory of Greece began to fade. Her people turned from the ideals which had brought glory, power and achievement. The disordering force which gnawed into this golden era, destroying and wrecking it, was not a force that came from without. It was evil in the hearts of men. Envy reared its ugly head. Covetousness begat injustice and injustice begat disloyalty.

Man was pitted against man. Class war plunged Greek society into moral evil of every kind. Honesty, the chief constituent of idealism and the chief requisite for integrity in living, was laughed out of existence in the atmosphere of suspicion and hostility that prevailed. Under conditions such as those, good and evil battled, and victors suffered with the vanquished.

After the barbarian invasions and the fall of Rome, Europe was plunged into the cultural darkness of the period known as the Dark Ages, when learning



suffered a total black-out. Then came the Crusades, followed by the Renaissance which brought with it a rebirth of learning. Scholars rediscovered the works of the ancient Greeks and Romans, and while the glory of an incomparable civilization faded centuries ago, today there is at our command the literature, art, science and philosophy of this undying civilization, works which even now form the basis of these subjects.

From this Greece of ancient glory the American college fraternity took its pattern. From its deities it chose its patron gods and goddesses. And of them all, Zeta Tau Alpha chose Themis, the goddess of Justice, without which true civilization cannot exist.





**THEMIS, PATRON GODDESS OF ZETA TAU ALPHA.** In this picture, which came from the National Museum in Athens, Greece, in 1932, a close study of the statue reveals that the left hand of Themis, formerly pictured as broken off, has been restored. This is the same statue (the work of Chairestratos in the third century, B.C.), which was found in the temple dedicated to Themis at Rhamnus. Following the pattern of other representations of her, originally Themis may have held the scales and a sword.

## The Mythology of Themis

"Themis, who dissolves and convokes the assemblies of men."

—Homer, *Odyssey*, II, 69.

BECAUSE many classical studies have been crowded out of college curricula, it is difficult for newcomers in a fraternity to understand and appreciate the significance of Greek influence upon it.

Many students of civilization believe the Greeks approached a standard of perfection in living that has sometimes been equalled, but never surpassed. Their ideal of perfection in man was harmony—a balanced development of body, mind and soul. They stressed beauty and attained a high degree of perfection in the arts, such as sculpture, architecture, poetry, music and the drama.

The Greeks believed in innumerable gods and goddesses. Everything in nature had its special deity. Those folk tales have come down to us today as Greek mythology. Some myths have enriched our own concepts and have been embodied in the very heart of fraternity life. As the central figure of the fraternity, Themis and her attributes are richly interwoven in the pattern and ritual of Zeta Tau Alpha. Who, then, is Themis, whose name her daughters wear so conspicuously over their hearts and to whom they sing:

To Themis, fair Themis  
We lift our hearts in song.

The 1902 clipping carefully pasted in Plummer Jones's scrapbook told Virginia readers that, "The Greek word, Themis, which appears on the pin, is, of course, a representative of the principle of the sorority—Justice, for which Themis, the goddess of Justice, stands." And he added, "This sorority, which has recently had such impetus, is distinctly a Virginia product, and [is] classic to the core."

Although Themis came eventually to be regarded solely as the goddess of Justice, and is so known in Zeta Tau Alpha, a study of this Titan "deity of the highest order" reveals far more than that, and takes one into the realm of intangibles and abstractions. For she is a force. She is Social Order personified, the Law or Custom that is Right. An understanding of her demands more than elemental scanning. It requires perception and spiritual discernment. The ref-



erences unfolding the story of Themis are many—as is benefitting for so important a figure in the mythological world.

In the beginning, Themis was suggested as the patron goddess by Mebane Smith, a brilliant scholar at the College of William and Mary, who also designed the badge. Themis was so selected because of the noble significance of her name in Greek lore. Then, as now, Themis was a spiritual force typifying the noble, the good and the true. As a natural consequence, the kingdom of

Themis is in the character, and the mind and the hearts of men. Themis is a figure of noble and majestic mien, a glorious representation of the ideals to which every Zeta is admonished to aspire.

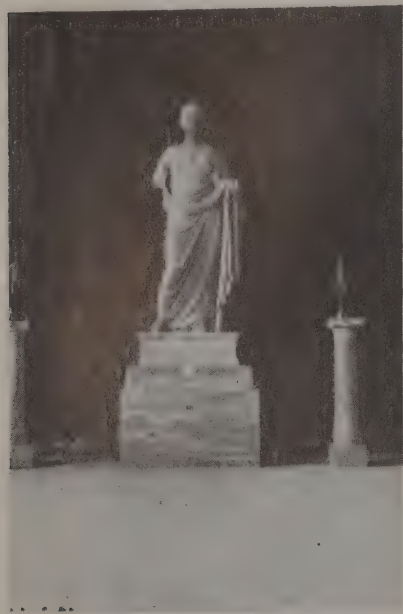
The nature and character of the goddess is naturally associated with the religious life of the Greeks and is richly alluded to in Greek literature and in works of art. Searching these sources, the revealed nature and character of this Titan prophetess engender growing pride and the conviction that Themis, as the patron goddess of Zeta Tau Alpha, was indeed a fortunate choice.

To understand Themis and the significance of the concept which she represents, one must understand the spirit and the events of her time. In developing from a savage state to a glorious civilization, the Greeks advanced physically, mentally and spiritually. During this same period the concept of Themis had its concurrent evolution, a development extending over three thousand years of legend and history.

In those early times, as today, Greece was a land of incomparable beauty. Its mountains thrust their heads upward to pierce the blue, translucent skies, while its slopes were lapped by the bluer Aegean seas. By day the sun ran its golden course across the heavens and at night the moon shone silver on the wooded groves and mountain waters flowing to the sea.

The Greeks were very observant. They thought deeply of the events of nature which came to their attention. In their thinking the tendency was strong to personalize the conditions and ideas of their time. Thus, the earth was Gaea. The sea was Poseidon. The heavens were Uranus. The sun was Apollo; while the moon was Phoebe.

The Greeks stood in awe of the majesty of nature. They wondered at the



THIS PICTURE, from a snapshot taken in the National Museum in Athens, shows the setting of the statue and the pedestal upon which Themis stands.

majestic sweep of the universe; they felt the movement and urging of the natural spiritual forces stirring within them. They were indeed a deeply religious people. They sought divine revelation and the inspiration to express beauty, wisdom, truth and perfection. They dedicated their lives to the expression of perfection in life, and they succeeded to a remarkable extent.

Man, they observed, was influenced by many forces, and indeed, at times they appeared to be forces over which he had no control. Fate, they reasoned, played a large part in the outcome. It was also noted that certain times were propitious and favorable to a desired end. It was not wise to initiate some course of action when the time was not ripe. Thus wisdom became a desirable attribute, for it allowed one to maintain some semblance of control over the events of life and the consequent outcome. A battle must not be commenced at an illogical time. A fleet of ships must not sail if there were forces of fate present to destroy them. Even the very personifications of powerful natural forces were considered to be subject to the vagaries of an indecisive and fickle fate. The legends of Greece tell many stories in which battles, with their conquests and defeats, were decided by simple incidents.

Each region of Greece had its local patron (god or goddess) and members of the community honored the religious figure of their home. There might be two or three, perhaps several sects, each devoted to the honoring of their ideal. A stranger in the vicinity was careful to respect its ideals and to observe the courtesy due the local patron. One did not deride or treat coarsely the ideals which others held in reverence. Nor did one profane the sanctuary of the patron by some overt act. Each Greek was free to believe and seek the truth as he saw it. With fate so variable it was not wise to offend a possible helpful influence. The Greeks were tolerant and they were wise, and they sought to improve upon their own wisdom. The patron often had its oracle and the Greeks sought its advice whenever possible. The oracle was in constant touch with conditions all over Greece and tempered its counsel with known conditions.

In their goal to express beauty and perfection, the Greeks erected tremendous buildings with exceeding grace of execution. They employed their talents to express the perfection of their ideals and the depth of their understanding. The greatest artists of all times created wondrous sculptures in stone, bronze and ivory. The temples became museums of art, treasuries of beauty and perfection, and the peoples of Greece journeyed far to participate in the festivals which had as their climax a visit to these wondrous creations. These magnificent buildings were generally located so that they might be seen from afar—visible to the wayfarer as he journeyed across the country.

Themis was the personification of an idea evolved in the development of Greek religion during the period in which Greece, as a nation, progressed from a savage state to a noble civilization.

The center of Greek religion was in the temples of Delphi. There on the



THEMIS as she was pictured in the 1928 *History of Zeta Tau Alpha*,  
before her left hand was restored.

rocky slopes of Mount Parnassus the primitive peoples of Greece gave thanks to Gaea, the Earth Mother, for the fertility and productive abundance of the soil, for the fruits of the land.

The Earth sends up fruits,  
Call ye on Earth the Mother.  
The Earth sends up fruits,  
So praise we Earth the Mother.

The earth was a subject of vital interest to the primitive Greek. It was the Earth Mother who provided him with the fruits of the wild trees and the vines.



Was it not Gaea who fed and freed these primitive peoples from the pangs of hunger?

### The Nature of Themis

The religious thought of Greece was directed toward gods who were personifications of the natural forces, for forces that shape the lives of men govern the world in which they live. Thus when mythology relates that Uranus (Heaven) and Gaea (Earth) produced a daughter, Themis, the meaning is simply that a spirit from above permeates confused mankind and shapes order and harmony. This spirit is also the feeling for law, which is well understood if Themis is considered as convoker, director and administrator of assemblies—the three roles in which she appears in Homer.<sup>1</sup>

These are the “physical” appearances Themis makes in literature before 700 B.C. Here, she is already an established and definite personality.

The word “themis” refers to rules set up in the obscure origin of the world, to be a guarantee of the order and harmony necessary to its existence. “Themis” means, basically, “setting,” “establishing,” hence “precept set forth for all time,” “harmony.” Accordingly, the character of the goddess became the personification of order and harmony in the development of the universe, and of the right of divine, over man-made, laws. She then represents order of all substances, guidance of all councils and tribunals and nourishment of justice on the earth—righteousness as agreed upon by common consent and prescription, in opposition to the enacted “right.” Opposite to her is Hybris, “pride,”<sup>2</sup> with some of the value of our word “sin.”

Since, by virtue of her powers, Themis was endowed with insight into the dependent relations of all things, she was also able to distinguish the future, not so much as an unchangeable fate, but as a future conditioned by man’s will and deeds. From this faculty was derived her character as a wise speaker and an oracle of truth.

As a result of her characterization as a decreeing goddess, the gift of prophecy—in the sense of wise utterances as by divine inspiration—was ascribed to her. This is also termed “oracular speech.” It is based upon custom, right, eternal truth. This type of utterance became one of her most meaningful duties. The verb made from the name of Themis means “to speak wisely or rightly, to share counsel.” No other Titan has so significant a name as does Themis.



HEAD OF THEMIS

From the impression from the coin supposedly found at Troezen.

<sup>1</sup> *Iliad* XV, 87, 93; XX, 4; *Odyssey* II, 69.

<sup>2</sup> Sophocles, *Oedipus Tyrannus*, p. 873.

Some expressions applied to her in this connection are: "of good counsel";<sup>3</sup> "graced with kindly-disposed counsel";<sup>4</sup> "right-counselling";<sup>5</sup> "holy guardian of men."<sup>6</sup>

Corresponding with her personality she appears on both sides of right—divine and human—indicating that the human stems from the divine insofar as both have the one fundamental thought. Themis is all-power, coming to gods at their birth, hence, guardian of divine children,<sup>7</sup> wife and counsellor of Zeus, having foreknowledge of eternal precepts making for harmony.

Among her functions was that of presiding over the feasts of the Olympians, maintaining their harmony. In one illustrative incident Queen Hera, much disturbed, rushes up to a banquet of the gods.<sup>8</sup> Themis comforts her, offers her the cup of welcome before the others. Hera then says, "Begin the equal banquet of the gods in the halls." (In later and decadent times, however, Dionysos, god of wine and revelry, was in charge of the banquets of the gods.)

In Homer, Themis convened and dissolved the assembly. Zeus could not convene the assembly himself. He must "bid Themis call the gods to council from many-folded Olympia's brow. And she ranged all about and bade them to the house of Zeus." The question has been asked: "Why, with Hermes and Iris at hand, ready to speed over earth and sea with messages and mandates, why should Themis have to execute just this one office of convening the assembly?" To preside over a banquet might be an honorable function, but "to range about all over," fetching up gods and demi-gods, was no more a mark of supremacy.

One answer propounded is that Themis was no herald like Hermes, no messenger like Iris, but the very spirit of the assembly incarnate. She was the force that brought men together and bound them. This force later developed into fixed customs, which finally took shape as Law and Justice. To the Greek mind, then, Themis represented Justice—divine Justice as opposed to the Justice of the law courts (Dike). She has been described as a goddess "who prescribed that which was right in accordance with divine law."

It was Themis who raised man above the station of the uncivilized. She was the cohesive force which brought men together for general discussions of their concerns, protected their free and open councils, and, as the goddess of good counsel, injected into them harmony and wise speeches. Thus, the words of a great statesman are as the utterances of the prophetess; and for men and gods, she is a goddess not of regulation but of initiative.

<sup>3</sup> Pindar, *Olympia* 13, 8; Ovid, *Metamorphoses* 1, 321.

<sup>4</sup> *Orphic Hymn*, 79, 11.

<sup>5</sup> Aeschylus, *Prometheus*, 18.

<sup>6</sup> Orpheus in Musaeus, 23.

<sup>7</sup> Scholiast *Iliad* XV, 229; *Hymn to Apollo* 124; Nonnos, *Dionysiaca*, 41, 162.

<sup>8</sup> *Iliad*, XV, 87 ff.

In relation to mankind Themis has several functions. She is a protectress of oaths.<sup>9</sup> She is representative of divine right wherever piety and unwritten laws come into consideration. Therein belong respect for parents and elders,<sup>10</sup> respect for one's self,<sup>11</sup> vows of the married to each other,<sup>12</sup> laws of nature that affect human relations,<sup>13</sup> protection of the innocent and of all in the right to life,<sup>14</sup> sympathy for the needy, the forgotten, and the defenseless. It is an offense to her divine harmony to injure the foreigner, the guest or the beggar.<sup>15</sup> Themis herself through an oracle commanded that men should never transgress salt and the table, and this symbolic description of the obligation of hospitality passed into a proverb for sharing.

As another writer put it, this "daughter of Uranus and Gaea was the personification of the divine law of right which ought to control all human affairs, of that highest and noblest sense of right which is subject to no human influences. In this capacity she came to be viewed also as goddess of the rites of hospitality. She was a personification of divine will as it bore upon the affairs of the world, and fittingly the Delphic oracle had been under her control before it was yielded to Apollo, to whom, as her successor, she communicated the prophetic art."<sup>16</sup>

### Genealogy of Themis

In the poetic genealogy of Hesiod (before 700 B.C.) and his imitators, Themis is of the family of Titans, who, before the Olympians came to rule, composed the god-world. The daughter of Uranus and Gaea,<sup>17</sup> she thus in a sense is older than Zeus or any other god of Olympus.

Legend tells of the marriage<sup>18</sup> of Gaea, the Earth, to Uranus, the sky or

<sup>9</sup> Euripides, *Medea* 169 ff., 107 ff., "the one invoked at an oath"; Sophocles, *Electra* 1064; Plato, *Leges* XI, 936E.

<sup>10</sup> Aeschylus, *Suppliants*, 707 ff.

<sup>11</sup> *Odyssey* XIV, 129 ff.; Euripides, *Medea* 160.

<sup>12</sup> *Iliad* IX, 134; 276; XIX, 177.

<sup>13</sup> Aeschylus, *Eumenides*, 413 ff.

<sup>14</sup> *Iliad* XI, 779; *Odyssey* III, 187; IX, 268; XVI, 91; XIX, 56; XXIV, 286.

<sup>15</sup> Zenobius I, 62.

<sup>16</sup> Murray, *Manual of Mythology*.

<sup>17</sup> Hesiod, *Theogony* 135.

<sup>18</sup> "At first," it is related, "there was Chaos—a vast seething confusion. There were no limits or bounds in the world. There was no plan or outline.

"Gradually, after a long lapse of ages, Chaos ceased to be mere darkness and confusion. It resolved itself into two great beings, two majestic deities—Gaea (Latin name: Tellus) or Mother Earth, and Uranus, or the Overhanging Heavens. But a constant memory remained and still remains in Night, the mysterious darkness in which Chaos lived. . . .

"Of the twelve Titans, among the most famous were Oceanus and Thethys, who ruled the sea; Rhea, later known as the 'Great Mother'; Themis, guardian of universal law; Mnemosyne, goddess of memory, and Cronus, youngest and most powerful of them all.

"Cronus slew his father Uranus. Then Jupiter decided to slay Cronus, his father. On Mount Ossa stood the old gods, on Olympus the young gods. For ages the war lasted. . . .



heavens. From this union came Themis, one of the twelve "beautiful children" who were called Titans—"of great size and strength: like men only much grander." From the sky came thunder and lightning, making the earth wet and gleaming, making Gaea "bride of the bladed thunder."

By proper inheritance her representation of righteousness and harmony is a holy one. Poets have called her "heavenly,"<sup>19</sup> "high-born,"<sup>20</sup> "daughter of a noble father,"<sup>21</sup> "Titanian . . . born long ago."<sup>22</sup>

Themis, the wise, the heavenly, . . . . .

. . . . .

The mother, she, of the unerring Hours

Gold-frontleted, gay-fruited powers.

—Pindar, frg. 30 [6]

As the daughter of Gaea, Themis performed the functions of the oracle. Themis was the oracular power of earth transmitting to succeeding generations of the Greek people the knowledge so necessary for the continuance of their agricultural economy, knowledge of the seasons and the harvest and other wisdom pertaining to her station as an oracle. So close was the association of Gaea and Themis in the minds of the early Greeks that it is difficult to distinguish between the two. In legend, which is a form of written history, the tendency is to merge characters of the same nature and so, when eventually recorded and passed on we read

Themis, she and Gaea,  
one in form  
with many names.

Strengthening the view of her as a prophetic or wise-speaking goddess is the tradition going back at least to the fifth century B.C. that she was a child of Uranus and Clithon (Earth) and was fused with Gaea (Earth-goddess). Prometheus cries out<sup>23</sup>

But often I had heard my mother, Earth (Gaea)  
And Themis, one form under many names,  
Predict the future as it would come to pass.

It is true that Earth is one form of many names—Asia, Europe, and such; so

---

Finally the gods divided the world among themselves. . . . Meanwhile, on the face of the earth, the races of mankind had come into being. In the golden age of Cronus, life was an eternal springtime. . . . Next came the silver age. Jupiter created the seasons and made labor necessary. Hunger and cold prevailed and houses had to be built. Silver was followed by the Age of Bronze, in which man learned the use of arms and made war upon one another. Last was the Age of Iron—an era of crime and dishonor, when the gifts of the gods were misused and man sank into utter degradation."

<sup>19</sup> Pindar, Frg. 6; Sophocles, *Electra* 1064.

<sup>20</sup> *Hymn to Aphrodite* 94.

<sup>21</sup> *Orphic Hymn* 79, 1.

<sup>22</sup> Aeschylus 873 ff.

<sup>23</sup> Aeschylus, *Prometheus*, 29 ff.

Themis is one form, an eternal, universal feeling for righteousness, but goes under different names in different nations. Of special meaning is her position as Earth-goddess, since from the depths of the earth she was supposed to gain knowledge of the future. Earth, here, is not so much a source of nourishment as she is an ever-sure, solid foundation—as is righteousness itself.

Gaea is also represented as rising from the ground against her omphalos while in the background, to the right, stands Themis resting on the oracular tripod. Greek literature speaks of:

Themis on her mother's oracular seat.

The *Eumenides* of Aeschylus opens with the prayer of the Pythian prophetess:

First of all gods I worship in this prayer  
Earth, the primeval prophet, after her  
Themis, the Wise, who on her mother's throne  
So runs the tale—sat second—another  
Earth-born Titaness.

In her wise pronouncements concerning agriculture, Themis, the oracle, often referred to Phoebe, the moon. Phoebe was also the daughter of Gaea and Uranus, hence sister of Themis.

Daughter too of Earth  
was Phoebe . . . the moon.

Reflecting the influence of Phoebe in the affairs of the Greeks, their literature makes reference to

The light and fate of the moon  
shining through the bosom of Themis.

When the Greeks began to note the influence of the sun upon their agrarian endeavors, the yearly cycle was at last identified with the sun. In order to account for the transference of attention and importance from the moon to the sun, mythology united them in marriage. As a result, Phoebe surrendered her glory to her twin in the sky, Phoebus.

She (Phoebe) gave it as a birthday gift to Phoebus  
and giving called it by her name.

Another name for Phoebus, the sun, was Apollo—Phoebus-Apollo.

Previously the ceremonies of agriculture had been held at night, often in the light of the moon.

How is thy worship held, by day or night?  
Most often night, 'tis a majestic thing the darkness.

With the recognition of Apollo, the sun hereafter set the time for such ceremonies and Apollo's star was risen in power, superseding those who had ruled before him.

Call upon the saving rays of the Sun,  
Call upon Apollo.

In the temple, Themis still continued to serve in the role of oracle. Apollo

is shown as he sat on the omphalos of Gaea, while nearby on the oracular tripod sat Themis.

This development and Apollo's conquest of the Delphic oracle is told by Euripides in *Iphigenia*. In the following lines, taken from the chorus that is sung just before the catastrophe, a reference to Themis affirms that she received her oracular power from Gaea and that Apollo displaced her:

Down on the golden tripod sat the god (Apollo)  
 And from the seed of truth his answer gave.  
 From that divine abode he sung,  
 While anxious mortals listened to his tongue.  
 .....  
 But, when the Beldam Earth (Gaea) beheld  
 Her daughter, Themis, from her shrine expelled,  
 Fantastic specters in her fruitful womb  
 She bred, companions of night's thickest gloom.  
 And, to inquiring mortals as they lay  
 Stretched in the darksome grotto, she bade them rise.

Later on in the same chorus it is related that Themis had handed over this power to Apollo.

As Gaea's daughter, she expresses one side of Gaea's character when she offers decrees and prophecies. Long before the worship of Apollo at Delphi, the oracle belonged, according to the oldest tradition, to the Earth-goddess. As has been shown, she gave it to her daughter, Themis. Then Themis in turn gave it to her sister Phoebe, or perhaps to Phoebus-Apollo.<sup>24</sup> Apollo at least was taught by her, and her spirit continued as the moving force back of the oracle. The figure of Themis suits all legends of Gaea and Apollo; in addition, her character already had been established as "Soteira" (Savior, Bringer of Blessings: a business which depends on her power of righteous justice). This appears in the fact that the service of the god became interwoven with the giving of thanks for right and health and the fact that Apollo was known as Savior and Atoner.

In early Greek society the men were hunters and fighters. It was the women who worked at agriculture, gathered the fruits of the trees and vines, tended the plants, and kept the children. Under such an arrangement, with the men most often away, the home was largely dominated by the women and a matrilinear order developed. Even the personification of nature, associated with her functions and duties, was feminine. Gaea, Themis, Phoebe were feminine figures.

But the cultivation of the soil was an exacting task and one which required strength. More and more this work came to be performed by men, and as a result they were no longer free to roam about. Greek society accordingly made a transition from a matrilinear to a patrilinear social structure. Observe how, as

<sup>24</sup> Aeschylus, *Eumenides* 2; Pindar, *Pythia* II, 8-10.



a result, the sun was given a male name. The sun was Apollo, represented by a male figure.

This development paved the way for the final cult of Greece. Greek society was composed of families, headed by the father. As the relationships within the family group became increasingly important and with a supply of food assured, Apollo was succeeded by the Olympians, a family group of immortals with Zeus as the Father and supreme head of the patrilinear social structure of gods.

According to mythology, Themis was welcomed into the Olympian family.

The Moirai (phases of the moon)  
lead heavenly Themis  
of the good counsels  
with golden horses (the steeds of Apollo)  
up the holy ladder of Olympos  
along the shining way.

With agriculture under control and ample supplies of food, the Greeks gave more and more attention to spiritual matters. The language of spirit is rich in symbolism. The reason for this is that it provides a powerful means of expression which seems so necessary to satisfy the intense realization and emotional reaction of religion. And yet this very symbolism, so powerful at the time, lucid and clear to the knowing, loses its meaning as time goes on. The very terms by which it was described lose their original meaning and are eventually reduced to a condition of having no known significance at all. What is needed is the key to such symbols. Initiation is the act of explanation of such symbols wherein the meaning is made clear.

In turning from a material to a spiritual outlook, the Greeks sought learning and knowledge. They strove to attain beauty in form and perfection in life. They were severely schooled in character and ideals. And it was this very attention to character and the principles by which they lived that brought them to a glorious civilization. The noble and pure thoughts which they sought in their own lives also found personification in the character and attributes of the gods of Olympia.

In the "Hymn of the Kouretes," whenever Themis appears in the story she stands supreme, eternally dominant. "Behind Gaea, the Mother, and above even Zeus, the Father, always stands the figure of Themis." Themis is constantly associated with Zeus. In the *Medea* of Euripides we read:

Did ye hear her cry  
To them that guard man's faith forsworn,  
Themis and Zeus?

As the wife<sup>25</sup> of Zeus she was the mother of the three Hours:<sup>26</sup> Thallo

<sup>25</sup> One story has it that "a long time passed before Zeus could persuade her to become his wife—his first wife, as some myths have it; his second, according to others, which say that Metis was his first."

(Bloom), Carpo (Fruit), Chloris (Spring). Their functions correspond to those of the Seasons. Thus they show the power of Themis over the world of nature and of human life since they, her daughters, are personifications of cosmic order, inasmuch as it is the principle of all good things for men and gods.<sup>27</sup>

Since righteousness (Themis) leads to life and produces Order, Justice and Peace, also ascribed to her are Eunomia (Good Order), Dike (Justice), and Irene (Peace); and the Moerae (the Fates: Clotho, Lachesis, and Atropos), daughters by Zeus, who allot good and evil to mortal men, in the proper order.<sup>28</sup> Thus, it is seen by the names of the daughters and the powers delegated to them that Themis' influence was great, including everything that made up harmony in heaven and earth. That she was the mother of only daughters is explained by the fact that abstractions which develop into personifications are generally of feminine gender. On the other hand, Aeschylus attributes to her a son, Prometheus, an assignment which is explainable in that his name means briefly, "Forethought," and Themis by virtue of her wisdom has also oracular ability.

Pindar has this to say:

Where doth Eunomia reign and her sister, secure foundation  
of cities, Diké, and her foster-sister, Eirene, guardians  
for wealth for men, golden daughters of Themis and of the  
fair Counsels.

The customary position of Themis among the Olympians is at the side of Zeus as confidante, member of the council and adviser. In the struggle of the Titans, she counsels Zeus; and in the Trojan war she offers advice. This story and others wherein Hera alone stands as the queenly wife of Zeus are reconciled when it is remembered that Themis is that pervasive sense of righteousness and harmony in regard to immortals as well as mortals. She and Hera are not in any sense rivals. On the contrary, they are the fairest of friends.<sup>29</sup>

### Worship of Themis

Pausanias informs us that Themis was worshipped in many towns as the "Saviour goddess," because she protected the rights of hospitality. This same historian writes that she shared a temple with Zeus at Thebes; with the Horae (her daughters) at Olympia. Aegina boasted more than any other city that she honored "Saviour Themis who sitteth by Zeus, god of Strangers."

An individual cultus of Themis at Delphi is not indicated directly, but the unchanged appointment of a priestess can be shown as due to the influence

<sup>26</sup> Hesiod, *Theogony*, 901.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid, 901 ff.; Pindar, *Olympia* 13, 6-8.

<sup>28</sup> Hesiod, *Theogony*, 904. Prometheus 18, 209, 874.

<sup>29</sup> *Iliad*, XV, 87 ff.

of Gaea and Themis; and it is no accident that a woman held the prophetic office in the service of a god. Sitting on the tripod over the earth's fissure, she is representative of the Earth-goddess, the dispatcher of prophetic inspiration; and she, Themis, is the heraldress-prophetess of laws, the One Existing Amid Change.

The next oldest worship was at Olympia, much like that at Delphi, although Gaea was withdrawing to the background and Themis was being intensified in character.

Old but not meaningless was the worship of Themis in Thessaly (where also a month was named for her) and in Macedonia. In both she is connected with the city name, Ichnae,<sup>30</sup> explained as divine justice (Erinys) seeking retribution, though actually the story probably was invented to explain the association with Themis.

Boeotia in many places had altars for the worship of Themis; others were at Troezen, Thelpusa in Arcadia (whence rose Themis' connection with Evander, so that in Roman history, she is known as Carmenta, a nymph of wise words).<sup>31</sup> At Athens there was a temple to Themis, between the theatre of Dionysos and the Odeon, on the path leading from the sanctuary of Asclepius to the city. It is especially noteworthy that at Epidaurus, as in Athens and Troezen, Themis was known as Soteira, a healing goddess.

### Themis in Art

Figured representations of Themis are few, but if Aulus Gellius (xiv, 4) of the second century B.C. is to be believed, artists as well as orators exploited her as a common subject. They depicted her as "of maidenly form and bearing, with a stern and fearsome countenance, a keen glance of the eye, and a dignity and solemnity which was neither mean nor cruel but awe-inspiring." Ancient artists represented her "as a woman of mature age, with large open eyes," but said a writer<sup>32</sup> in 1875, "modern artists—and they alone, it must be observed—picture her" as blindfolded. "She is further represented holding a sword and chain in one hand and a balance in the other, to indicate the severity and accuracy with which justice is to be meted out and administered."<sup>33</sup> In later centuries she is shown with the cornucopia, the symbol of prosperity spread over the nations, and the balance, as an expression of her just nature. Today, however, she has become only the personification of justice, with a blindfold over her eyes.

Again, she is represented as a woman of commanding and awe-inspiring

<sup>30</sup> "Traces." *Hymn to Apollo* 94; Strabo 9, 435.

<sup>31</sup> Plutarch. *Quaestiones Romanae* 56; Pausanias VIII, 43, 2.

<sup>32</sup> Murray, A. S., *Manual of Mythology*.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid.



presence, sometimes holding a pair of scales and a cornucopia—the symbol of the blessing of justice, a picture which inspired Pope to write in his *Messiah*:

All crimes shall cease, ancient fraud shall fail,  
Returning justice lift aloft her scales—  
Peace o'er the world her golden wand extend  
And white-robed Innocence from heaven descend.

Ideas of her physical appearance come more from occasional remarks about her and the adjectives applied to her than from statues. She is described as a youthful person,<sup>34</sup> of wonderful beauty,<sup>35</sup> and she is designated as "beautiful-cheeked,"<sup>36</sup> "inspiring awe,"<sup>37</sup> "bright,"<sup>38</sup> "chaste,"<sup>39</sup> and "roseate,"<sup>40</sup> "heavenly being"<sup>41</sup> and magnificent."<sup>42</sup>

Outstanding representations of her in art were a statue of gold and ivory at Olympia, by the Lacedaemonian Dorycleides;<sup>43</sup> a marble statue in her sanctuary at Thebes;<sup>44</sup> a six-foot wooden statue with marble face, hands, and feet at Thelpusa in Arcadia; a figure woven on a costly tapestry of Sybaris.<sup>45</sup> None of these, however, has been preserved, but the following are extant:

1. A colossal statue placed in the rear in the smaller of two temples in Rhamnus of Attica. It is now preserved in the National Museum in Athens. It is made of Pentelian marble, stands eight feet high, and belongs to the beginning of the third century B.C., a work of faultless execution. An inscription proclaims it the work of Chairestratos. The dress is finely worked out; sandals are on her feet. The right arm and part of the left hand are missing; she may have been holding a balance or other symbol of her jurisdiction. This is reproduced on page 256.

2. The interior of a cylix (drinking cup) from Vulci, in the Berlin collection, shows a red-figured picture of perfect design. It is by an Attic master of about 440 B.C. and represents Themis as the Pythian priestess seated on the oracle-working tripod. Before her stands childless King Aigeus who comes to the oracle, asking that he might have a son. The goddess, a youthful, graceful form, with chiton, bare arms and feet, wearing an ear-ring and a necklace, and with her veil on the back of her head, sits on the tripod—in her left hand a basin

<sup>34</sup> *Orphic Hymn* 79, 2.

<sup>35</sup> Hymn to *Aphrodite* 92 ff.—the beholder does not know whether it is she or Aphrodite or Artemis.

<sup>36</sup> *Iliad*, xv, 87.

<sup>37</sup> Hesiod, *Theogony*, 16.

<sup>38</sup> *Ibid*, 901.

<sup>39</sup> *Orphic Hymn* 79, 1.

<sup>40</sup> *Ibid*.

<sup>41</sup> Sophocles, *Electra*, 1064.

<sup>42</sup> Euripides, *Medea*, 160.

<sup>43</sup> Pausanias V, 17, 1.

<sup>44</sup> *Ibid.*, IX, 25, 4.

<sup>45</sup> Aristotle *De Mirabilibus Auscultationibus*, 96.

or phiale of holy water which she was apparently using for divination, in her right hand a bay or laurel twig.

3. A polychrome representation of the Judgment of Paris was found on one side of a pelike (vase), an Attic work of the fourth century B.C. In the lower row of figures sits Paris surrounded by deities concerned with the famous



From a red-figured cylix showing King Aigeus  
before Themis in the Temple of Delphi.

beauty contest which preceded the Trojan war. In the top row, the upper portion of the youthful form of Themis is identified. Arms bare, she wears a flowing gown, a headband with leaf decoration, ear-ring, and a neckband of a white roll. She talks with Eris (Strife) whose shoulder she grasps with her right hand, her left being stretched out from her side. Behind her stands Niké (Victory) and after her, Zeus. The picture probably means that the battle in the Trojan war will be on the side of Right.

4. Themis is apparently the maiden represented on an Attic pelike of the fourth century B.C., dressed in chiton and blue and red himation, sitting on a yellow-touched, gold-filleted omphalos, her left foot raised upon a stone. As befits supreme counsellors of the world, she and Zeus are conversing; she

speaks with life-like gestures to him as he sits near her, on a throne. Athena and Hermes listen.

In addition to these there are a few fragments. Her figure near that of Uranus was also in high relief on a part of the Pergamene altar frieze, but only a bit of the chiton and mantle remains. In addition, she was represented on coins, resembling the figure of Athena (see page 257). Especially was this true later in Rome.

It is appropriate to conclude this biography of a great goddess with mention of the *Hymn of the Kouretes* (Young Men, Guardians) of 300 B.C. found in Crete. Expressive of beliefs of earlier times when the dance was an expression of religious enthusiasm, it is an invitation to Zeus to come to his temple before which the young men dance in his honor. The hymn concludes with a call also to the rite of Themis,

Leap, for (in behalf of) beautiful Themis.

Emerging from the galaxy of powers and attributes, dominantly, Themis represents, and always will represent, Justice to the thousands of Zeta Tau Alphas who have been taught her high precepts—a goddess who prescribed that which was right in accordance with divine law—a law not to be evaded.

Unveil thine eyes, O Themis! stand,  
unveil thine eyes!  
From the high Zenith hang thy balance  
in the skies!

—Bridges.

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9

*The Second Decade*

*1908-1918*

6



## Preface

TURBULENCE lay ahead in the stream of world history as Zeta Tau Alpha entered its second decade. Here was the America that seemed not to know that war clouds were gathering over the world, and that it was coming of age. Here, as some have said, were the American people in the last phase of their innocence before the war clouds of Europe broke in 1914 and eventually engulfed them. In this decade the United States became the dominant world power.

Theodore Roosevelt's third party (the Bull Moose), formed after his break with President Taft split the G.O.P., accomplished the election of the first Democratic president in many years. In 1913 Woodrow Wilson entered upon a fateful quadrennium. And the income tax was first imposed.

War flamed through Europe between the Triple Entente (Britain, France, Russia) and the Triple Alliance (Germany, Italy, Austria-Hungary). Germany sank the Cunarder, the *Lusitania*, in 1915, many Americans going down with her; great indignation grew over Germany's U-boat warfare. Russia fell to the Bolsheviks in 1917.

In April, 1917, the United States entered the European war on the side of the Triple Entente. General Pershing took the A.E.F. to Europe; there were Liberty Loan drives; women in war plants; Food Administrator Herbert Hoover, who later fed starving Europeans, inaugurated voluntary "Hooverizing" at home, with meatless meals and wheatless days, saving quantities of food for the European front. Everyone sang "Over There," "There's a Long, Long Trail A Winding," "Tipperary," "Keep the Home Fires Burning," "My Buddy," and Elsie Janis' name was synonymous with "Mademoiselle from Armentieres." Sergeant Alvin York was hailed as the greatest individual hero of the war.

Germany lost the war. The armistice was signed on November 11, 1918. And poppies grew in Flanders Field.

The automobile had virtually displaced the horse by 1918; it was *de rigueur* to have a victrola; 1915 was evangelist Billy Sunday's big year; the Panama Canal was formally opened to commerce in 1914; transcontinental telephone service was inaugurated; the world was shocked when the *Titanic* went down



on her maiden voyage in 1912; the "safe, noiseless," glass-enclosed "electric car" was a familiar sight on the streets, usually driven by a woman.

Books poured from the presses and Americans read Shaw, Kipling, Wells, Booth Tarkington, George Ade, George Barr McCutcheon, Rex Beach, Jack London, Edna Ferber, Galsworthy, Winston Churchill, John Fox, Jr., and many others.

Since the century's turn, concert and theatre goers welcomed the compositions of Debussy, Richard Strauss, Elgar, Puccini, Stravinsky, the singing of Caruso and Chaliapin, the immortal acting of Bernhardt and Duse, the piano artistry of Paderewski, and the dancing of Pavlova and Nijinsky. They flocked to the theatre to see Ethel Barrymore, John Drew, David Warfield, Otis Skinner, Jane Cowl, Mrs. Patrick Campbell, Minnie Maddern Fiske, Hazel Dawn, Fritzi Scheff—and to see Montgomery and Stone in "The Wizard of Oz." Musical comedies were part of the very fabric of entertainment life. Among the favorites were "The Chocolate Soldier," "The Firefly," "Sweethearts" and scores of others.

Willoway Vernon and Irene Castle raised ballroom dancing to new heights. She introduced and popularized the short hair that women wore thereafter, scandalizing the country when she first appeared with "bobbed" hair. A mad dancing era revelled in the fox-trot, tango, Castle Walk and other new dance forms, including the short-lived bunny-hug. The waltz survived; the two-step went out. Ragtime became a national craze when Irving Berlin introduced "Alexander's Ragtime Band."

Embryonic in 1900, the movies were big business by 1914. By 1912 Mary Pickford, "America's Sweetheart," was known as the Biograph Girl. "The Birth of a Nation," the first big feature picture, electrified the country in 1915. Cecil DeMille created his big spectacle pictures. By 1918 movie-going was an established habit, seriously threatening the legitimate theatre. There was a long list of cinema favorites, including Douglas Fairbanks, Charlie Chaplin and Lillian Gish.

Ankle-length skirts came in; high-buttoned shoes needed button hooks; Merry Widow hats, so wide that wearers had to turn sideways to pass through doors, gave way to less extreme, but still bulky hats; sheath skirts shocked the country early in the decade; hobble skirts were the rage in 1910.

A yeasty decade, it ended the last vestiges of the Victorian era's influence, and shaped the course of history. This ten-year span was also the end of an era in Zeta Tau Alpha.

## The Chapters

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MU: The first new chapter of the second decade was Zeta's first venture into the state of Missouri. It was also the first venture that far north. And Zeta Tau Alpha was the first national fraternity for women at Drury College.

Although an early sketch of the chapter said that "since 1909 Zeta Tau Alpha has been a factor in Drury life," the beginning of that influence dated from November 19, 1906, when a local group, Theta Sigma, was organized with five founder members: Evelyn Green, Ida Carter (Knight), Adah Rominger (Likins), Ethel Lanier (Feemster) and Etolia Gibson. Their purposes were: first, true womanhood, the maintenance of high ideals and scholarship; and second, affiliation with a national fraternity.

"From the first," they wrote in *Themis*, "Theta Sigma was ambitious to become national, and worked with that end in view, making it a point to initiate only girls who were regular students, and girls who were active in college work.

"In the first two years no event stood out as particularly important. We had the usual ups and downs, the work and jolly good times common to fraternity life. But all the while we were establishing that solid, steady, comfortable sort of friendship that any fraternity girl knows how to appreciate, and were becoming more and more adjusted to each other and to our work in the chapter. . . ."

Each year their good friends, Dr. and Mrs. Shepard, invited the Theta Sigmas "to a weekend party at Winoka Lodge, a private club in a beautiful spot down in the country. The girls went on Saturday. The dates came down on Monday for the day. The house party was a choice event that was talked about before, and weeks (maybe years) afterward." Picnics were in their heyday of popularity and "those were the days when boys and girls were emerging from the strict chaperonage of an earlier time, but we still stuck pretty close to the correct etiquette," Lillian Short (Morse) wrote years later.

Three years of effort went into building a strong chapter. Then they felt they were ready to become a part of a national organization. But with no national fraternities for women on the campus at that time, the Theta Sigmas were told that this, added to the fact that Drury was a small college, would militate against them in securing a national charter. However, in the course of their correspondence with a fraternity woman at the University of Arkansas

they were advised that Zeta Tau Alpha was interested in expansion outside of the South, where all her chapters were located at that time. Favorably impressed by what they had heard, "upon receipt of that news, Theta Sigma immediately petitioned Zeta Tau Alpha."

Of this in-between period they said:

Early in the fall we decided to petition Zeta Tau Alpha for a charter, and taking courage we sent off our first letter. Then, very undecided as to whether we should be hopeful or not, we watched for the postman anxiously every day till the answer came. When we read it, we were divided between hope and despair, but we sent our petition as soon as possible. And then we waited and waited and waited, trying our best to satisfactorily fulfill the requirements made of us, till at last, on the 18th of February, the letter came, announcing that a charter would be granted us.

They petitioned about December, 1908, and on February 8, 1909, the charter was granted.

Grace Jordan (Cook), Grand Vice-President-Editor at that time, was the officer in charge of the installation ceremonies which took place March 8, 1909, at the home of Helen Parker (Sweeney) in Springfield. The eighteen who became charter members\* of Mu chapter were: Adah Rominger (Likins), Etolia Gibson, Ethel Lanier (Feemster), Lillian Short (Morse), Blanche Scott (Martin), Pearl Hamlin, Helen Parker (Sweeney), Elizabeth Darrow (Wells), Jessie Lawing (Elliott), Sue Freeman (Johnston), Ida Carter (Knight), Faye Sturdy (Keating), Olive Brashears (Dow), Isabel Shepard, Meta Smythe, Ada Belle Shelton (Ketcham), Edith Fink (Sears) and Mabel Hayes (Hale).

Through *Themis*, the still small but intensely interested Zeta world was given a full account of the installation.

Arriving Saturday, March 6, "in the pretty little town of Springfield, Missouri," where she was "to install Mu chapter," at Drury College, Grace Jordan was the house guest of Isabel Shepard. Sunday's "auto ride," which she "enjoyed very much," might also have impressed the visitor, for automobiles were still very new and very novel. In the evening Adah Rominger gave "a jolly little dinner party."

"The eleven o'clock breakfast," served shortly after the group gathered for initiation the next day, "was an especially delightful affair, at which Mrs. Shepard and Mrs. Parker were present," as were the eighteen Theta Sigmas. "The dining room was darkened, and artistically decorated in spring flowers and ferns. Beautiful roses, sent that morning by our loyal Kappa Alpha brothers, and red carnations sent by Miss Lula Nichols, Theta Sigma's Pi Beta Phi patroness, held special places of honor. . . .

"At the end of the breakfast the installation ceremony began, and lasted until four o'clock in the afternoon. Three out-of-town alumnæ were initiated,

\* From this point on, space restrictions prevented the inclusion of the pictures of charter members.



making seven alumnæ in all." They were especially pleased about that.

After installation they "were all tired and happy and hungry enough to thoroughly enjoy a real college spread. The long cloth was placed upon the floor, 'round which were gathered nineteen happy sisters. Two steaming chafing dishes were at one end, and from end to end of the snowy cloth, such good things to eat! Flashlights were taken of the table, the installation room, and the decorations, but at six we gave the grip all around and said goodbye. . . ."

That evening "Kappa Alpha was at home to Mu chapter in their chapter house and Kappa Alpha hospitality was never more charmingly extended." Their guests were delighted with a "one-act farce, representing a sorority meeting and an initiation. . . ."

Tuesday included chapel, a tour of the campus, the Zeta luncheon at McCullough Cottage, climaxed by an afternoon reception at Isabel Shepard's hospitable home. "From four to six o'clock over one hundred guests called, including college faculty, Mu Beta sorority, Kappa Alpha fraternity, and other friends. The parlors were effective in pink and white carnations." Grace Jordan, Isabel Shepard, Miss Nichols, Etolia Gibson and Adah Rominger were in the receiving line. Decorations in the library were "college pennants, and red carnations. . . . In the dining room the color scheme was yellow and white, fluffy bows of tulle and quantities of spring flowers making it seem like a fairy place. Refreshments were served by a bevy of attractive girls from the younger set, members of Alpha Delta Psi sorority of the academy."

Before the installing officer's midnight train departure, there were final conferences and a meeting with the officers.

"Mu begins life with eighteen members, including three seniors, four juniors, two sophomores, two freshmen and seven alumnæ, five of whom are Drury graduates and four of whom live in Springfield, and are thus an active help to Mu," Grace Jordan wrote. "The eleven girls in the active chapter are all exceptionally good students, popular with the faculty, well to the front in all college affairs, and are in every way fitted to uphold our standards. . . ."

NU: One of the South's most historic universities became the home of Zeta's Nu chapter when the fourteenth charter grant went to a petitioning group at the University of Alabama, in Tuscaloosa. This was the first chapter placed in a state university after Zeta Tau Alpha became a member of the National Panhellenic Conference.

Fraternities for women had scarcely a toe-hold on the campus in 1909, when four girls decided that there should be a second group for women at Alabama. Inspired by that resolution, Clara Belle Senn, May Ida Chase, Willie Estelle Elliott and Sara Glenn Somerville asked four other girls, Louise Robinson, Lulu Clower Cook (Connel), Bertha McLaurine and Margaret Bolyn Phillips, to join them in forming a local organization to petition Zeta Tau Alpha.

The story really went back to an April afternoon when Clara Belle Senn joined May Ida Chase in the library. Finally coming to the point, Clara Belle suggested that the two "organize a new sorority," the latter wrote. "A Kappa Delta alumna had first suggested the idea to her, and we both agreed that there was material enough for two strong sororities at the university." But "for various reasons," they decided "to wait until the next year to organize."

Then during the summer fate stepped in. Their staunch friend, Miss Ora Smith, Alabama's librarian, "met a Zeta Tau Alpha girl." From that "fateful meeting until the present," May Ida Chase wrote in 1910, "things have been moving."

The founders decided that "even as a local" the group had "a strong chance to live and accomplish something." But Kappa Delta, Alabama's only sorority at that time, "knew our plans from the first, and urged us to come out with our colors at once. Three Kappa Deltas and six of our girls gathered on the lawn one night after supper and under the shelter of an old pine tree, talked matters over." White and gold were the colors they chose. "To Kappa Delta was given the privilege of pinning on our colors, and we were all bubbling over with enthusiasm." They promptly chose the name, Mu Beta, in honor of their Greek professor, Malcolm Burke. That was on October 5. In addition to their goal of seeking a national charter from Zeta Tau Alpha, their purposes were "to procure good fellowship among the girls, and to develop well-rounded personalities."

Now that their "life was begun in the Greek world," their "first work was to secure a room, a somewhat difficult task as everything seemed to be filled." But they found "a little room in the old Annex, and though it is not handsome, it is very cozy, and as one of our rats said, 'It is home'."

Mu Beta held weekly meetings, and each girl was encouraged to participate in campus activities. In 1909 there was no way for a group as a whole to gain distinction, but each member received honors in the Y.W.C.A., class offices, dramatic clubs, basketball, et cetera. The group shone from the first—a hand-picked, congenial band who had their goals well defined.

Meanwhile they "were thinking and working for Zeta Tau Alpha. How they wanted Zeta Tau Alpha before the end of the first year!"

During the latter part of February, 1910, Grace Jordan (Cook), then Editor of *Themis*, came to Alabama to inspect Mu Beta. Pleased with the girls and with what she found, the charter was granted.

The formal installation of the chapter took place on April 10, 1910, in the Sigma Nu Hall. Since no member of Grand Chapter was able to be present, the installation was entrusted to three girls from the exemplary Beta chapter, who were sure to do it beautifully. Thus Hellen Patrick (Cruse), Fannie Yeatman and Elizabeth Maddox (Stewart) had charge of the ceremonies that gave them a sister chapter in Alabama.

Typical of Beta's fine spirit was the tone of Bessie Maddox's account of Nu's installation. "It was with much pride," she reported modestly, "that we three . . . boarded the train for Tuscaloosa . . . for we had work for our fraternity at heart. . . ."

Arriving at nine-fifteen o'clock Friday evening they were "met by a crowd of girls and boys, who hurried us to the university to make ready for a dance given to the visitors." They enjoyed every moment of it, "for most of our prospective fraternity sisters were there, constantly looking out for our pleasure."

Installation ceremonies were held, "immediately after dinner the next day, in the Sigma Nu Hall [which] the boys had kindly offered. The ceremonies were most solemn and beautiful and how proud we old Zeta Tau Alphas were when we beheld nine new daughters of Themis before us." The nine charter members initiated that day were: Clara Belle Senn, May Ida Chase, Willie Estelle Elliott, Sara Glenn Somerville, Louise Robinson, Lulu Clower Cook (Connel), Margaret Bolyn Phillips, Jane Austen and Nell MacMahon (Fallaw), the last two having become members of Mu Beta in November. Bertha McLaurine of the original group did not return after the Christmas holidays in 1909.

"There were amusements in the late afternoon," the ever-conservative Beta member mentioned briefly, "but the evening was spent in telling the new girls all we could about Zeta Tau Alpha; reading and discussing our constitution and ritual, and going through a chapter meeting." And they "greatly enjoyed the box of candy" that Kappa Delta sent.

"Our chapter at the University of Alabama is one of which every Zeta Tau Alpha will be proud," Bessie joyously told *Themis'* readers. "It consists of nine of the most attractive girls one could find, and each one has entered upon her work for the fraternity with eager enthusiasm. . . . Beta is especially proud of our new chapter and glad to welcome her, for now Beta will have no further need to feel lonesome 'way down in Alabama."

Thus was established one of the earliest women's fraternities at the University of Alabama and a chapter of fine tradition in Zeta Tau Alpha.

XI: Early hopes for a chapter in the far West, "by the sparkling waters of the Pacific," were realized just five years before the first West Coast convention when the zeal of a member from Epsilon chapter brought that to pass.

Xi's beginning was related in the November, 1910, issue of *Themis*. With truth the story declared that "not always do we feel best in saying: 'Backward, turn backward, O Time in thy flight.'" But the writer continued with an expression of pleasure, "however I am turning to the past days, in order to tell my new sisters in Zeta Tau Alpha of the local Kappa Tau.



I should say from the start that my key-word is "Zella," for it is to Zella Bryan of Epsilon chapter that we owe a large debt of gratitude. Zella learned that here at the University of Southern California were four sororities; that there was room for another; and that the 'another' was Zeta Tau Alpha. She therefore began to talk fraternity very seriously to Alma Squires, who lived near her in Ontario, California. Alma then confided her happy secret to Lillian Backstrand and myself, and you may well imagine the bond which from that time drew us together. The goal at the end appeared bright, indeed, although the road leading to it looked so long and difficult that at times it seemed too much to undertake. But in spite of all, the determination was ours.

After much thought and careful consideration, three new girls were taken into our circle. With this number we held a secret meeting over the chocolate cups, and pledged allegiance to each other in the organization of Kappa Tau local sorority. . . .

Zella came to spend the day with us. The hours indeed flew as a moment, and the day was most pleasant, profitable and inspiring. . . . I can assure you that we were eager for Zeta Tau Alpha as we talked of our hopes. . . .

Very soon another was added to our circle, so that we could say "We are seven." . . . Then came that interesting day in our history when faculty action was in order. We went, one evening, to the home of Dr. Stowell, chairman of the faculty committee on fraternities. There we made known our desires and purposes. . . . After a time of anxious waiting, word was received that our requests were granted, and that the doors of U.S.C. were open to Zeta Tau Alpha, should we be so fortunate as to secure a charter from her. . . .

When our circle increased to nine we petitioned Grand Chapter. . . . Not long before installation we initiated our tenth sister into Kappa Tau. . . .

Together—ten of us—we shared the secrets of Zeta Tau Alpha.

Xi's existence, therefore, stems from the interest and perception of Zella Bryan (deBarard), Epsilon, who, in March, 1910, interested Alma Squires in the establishment of a Zeta chapter at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, a fertile field not at all covered at that time.

Their interest and enthusiasm attracted the girls they wanted and they soon organized a group of ten members known on the campus as Kappa Tau. Their purpose, of course, was to petition Zeta Tau Alpha and with that end in view they selected the charter members: Fanny Hunter (Taylor), Ella Draper, Joyce Amis (Garcia), Alma Squires, Lillian Backstrand (Wilson), Grace Willett, Isadora Winans (Robson), Grace Sowden, Ruth Aber (Finnegan) and Ethel Underwood (Campbell).

With full confidence in her judgment, Grand Chapter empowered Zella Bryan herself to the pleasant assignment of "inspecting" her own group. And that group, of course, came off with flying colors.

Then on April 23, at the home of Fanny Hunter (Taylor), she and Grace Jordan (Cook), Grand Vice-President-Editor, formally installed Xi chapter, and Zeta Tau Alpha's first chapter in California came into being.

The well-chosen founding group immediately took its place on the campus on which Zeta Tau Alpha was the second national fraternity for women. And Xi at once became a chapter of strength and prominence in the fraternity.

## OMICRON:

## TO OMICRON

Fair Themis smiled,  
And dazzling bright,  
In sheer delight,  
Love's sunbeams shone.

Fair Themis sighed.  
Her quivering breath  
On earth beneath  
Hope's dewdrops spun.

Fair Themis spoke.  
The plant she nursed  
In flower had burst—  
As Omicron.

Thus, not in everyday prose, but in verse was Omicron introduced in *Themis*. And the installing officer reflected with pride upon the growth of the fraternity and the step that Omicron's installation marked.

"At certain periods of physical life," the Alumnae Chairman, Ethel Cruse (Mouton) wrote, "growth is sudden and accomplished by marked changes—as when youth becomes maturity. 'Tis then the utmost vigilance and devotion is necessary to pass safely the transition period. This is equally true of an organization; and we, the members of Zeta Tau Alpha, are maturing into a glorious fraternity, the life of which depends upon the constant care and unfaltering faith of those responsible for her being. Another step has been taken in the extension work of Zeta Tau Alpha, another chapter added to our roll, and one of which we may well be proud."

Zeta's steady growth was an apparent fact and the advent of a chapter in the state of Georgia was an occasion for rejoicing. Ardent were the charter members in their feeling for the fraternity of their choice, and the location and conditions surrounding the placing of this chapter were ideal.

Founded in 1878, this fine old southern college for women was first known as the Georgia Baptist Seminary for Young Ladies. In 1890 it became the Georgia Female Seminary, then in 1900 its name was changed to Brenau College. At the time of Zeta Tau Alpha's entrance "the material equipment, such as buildings, furnishings, et cetera, is perhaps as complete as at any college in the South." And Zeta was "assured that the field is rich with good material."

The four-year-old local group which became Omicron chapter was organized in October, 1907, by the president of Brenau College, Dr. H. J. Pearce, and Mrs. E. E. Pittinger, the assistant principal. Pi Gamma Theta, as the organization was called, enjoyed official sponsorship and approval and it flourished in the atmosphere of this southern college in Gainesville. The fifteen founder members chose for their open motto: "Each for all and all for God," thus consecrat-

ing themselves to the principles of altruism and devotion. "Pink and white were selected as the colors, and the pink carnation as the favored flower. The pin was of . . . oval shape."

Pi Gamma Theta's 1907-1908 membership roster listed the names of Mary Sallie Moffitt, Belle Nowell, Lena Mobley, Virginia Brown, Eugenia Vaughn, Louise Brown, Mary Vaughn, Lily Copeland, Annie Williams, Ruby Mobley, Cassie Maegher, Aline Johnston, Elizabeth Fergeson, Eline Burnett, Betsy Evans, Agnes Parker, Mabel McCoy, Estoria Peacock, Essie Powell and Lucile Pierce. Mrs. Pittinger and Miss Carrie Hyde were honorary members.

For the year 1908-1909, Lita Lucile Pierce was elected president, followed in 1909-1910, by Desma Pentecost.

Not unexpectedly, Pi Gamma Theta, with its carefully chosen members, prospered from the start. Fine qualities and fine background characterized the early group. Their steady growth and success were clearly signalized when, in 1910, they boasted ownership of an attractive club house\* which they built at the cost of \$15,000, a considerable sum for that day.

Then upon the suggestion of Miss Florence Overton, Delta Gamma, head of the school of oratory, they successfully petitioned Zeta Tau Alpha.

On January 14, 1911, Pi Gamma Theta became Zeta's Omicron chapter and the sixteenth link in the chain of chapters. Ethel Cruse (Mouton), Alumnæ Chairman, was the installing officer. The charter members were: Magnolia Bostwick (Platt), Annie Kate Gresham (Bryson), Kate Sharpe (Anderson), Emma Mobley (Lewis), Lucy Ferguson (Hager), Neva Andrews (Park), Corry Jennings (White), Marie Brown (Smith), Helen Pope (Braunen), Catherine Herlihy (Ouray), Edna Boyd (Winter), Annie May Christie, Phoebe Laing (Moseley), Myrtis Beach, Carrie May Brinson (Brannen), Leta Coleman (Hosch), Grace Johnson (Harlee), Rebecca Moss (Gain), Alline Matheson (Anderson), Maude Cartter (André), Mary Carr (Helmley), Eleanor Fryer (Kidd), Madge Hicks (Sisterhenm), Louise Liddon (McFarlin), Thomasine Moody (Greene), Constance Wimberly (Roberts), Eva Mays and Elleleighfare Muse (Refern).

Perhaps no other chapter had an installation program quite like the one Ethel Cruse worked out for Omicron. Almost an in-training program carried on simultaneously with the installation itself, it was systematic and unhurried. And a puzzled Brenau did a considerable amount of speculating.

"Frankly speaking," Ethel wrote in *Themis*, "this chapter had never appealed to me, and when I received the invitation to go and install [it], I appreciated the honor, but I was not one bit enthusiastic. However, after a visit to Galveston to talk the matter over, Miss Hopkins said I was to go. On the night of January twelfth, I was speeding toward Gainesville.

\* Years later Omicron deeded its lodge to Dr. Pearce, Brenau's president, upon his agreement to add a second story so that the girls might live there.



"How different it all seems now," she reflected. "My destination was reached about three o'clock Friday morning, January the thirteenth. Two of the girls, Miss Johnson and Miss Pope, met me. We were at once driven to the college, and I was taken to the room of my cousin. By morning I had decided that I would never be able to continue my journey if all those twenty-seven girls had as many questions to ask as she. On Saturday morning the girls were busy with their school work, but one by one came to my room, and by noon I had shaken the hand of every Pi Gamma Theta."

The Atlanta *Herald* carried the story of the reception that night:

The Pi Gamma Theta local sorority of Brenau College announced its affiliation with the national Zeta Tau Alpha, Saturday evening, January 14, when they tendered to the faculty and sororities of the college a brilliant reception. Their club house on the campus was tastefully decorated in palms and cut flowers, and in the combined colors of the two sororities, pink and white, turquoise and gray. In the receiving line were Miss Ethel Cruse, Beaumont, Texas, who came to install the chapter, and the officers of the sorority, Miss Magnolia Bostwick, of Bostwick, Georgia; Miss Annie May Christie, of Dawson, Georgia; Miss Annie Kate Gresham, of Bostwick, Georgia, and Miss Edna Boyd, of Maysville, Georgia. The Zeta Tau Alpha colors were also carried out in the refreshments; fruit punch was served throughout the evening. Since its organization in 1907, Pi Gamma Theta has been a strong and progressive sorority, its membership being composed of girls who have stood for high ideals and lofty principles. In the spring of 1910 they erected their club house on the campus, a beautiful building in Spanish mission style.

"Sunday afternoon the girls kept 'open house' in the club house, serving tea and sandwiches. . . ."

"Monday," Ethel Cruse related, "our real work began. Miss Hopkins had told me to take my time about installing and so I did. The work we divided into six divisions, thereby making it very easy for the girls and helping me. Monday afternoon we elected officers." That night "we initiated thirteen of the girls whose names appeared on the charter. The installation ceremonies were very solemn and beautiful. . . ."

"Tuesday afternoon we installed the newly elected officers, and had them practice the initiation ceremony. The club house is ideal for initiations, with the basement and ante-rooms. That night the charter members initiated with much dignity the fourteen pledges from this year." Wednesday afternoon the officers and Miss Cruse "rehearsed a chapter meeting. Twenty-seven girls stood and pledged themselves to Themis. Thursday the Zetas pledged Eva Mays. . . ." On Thursday night their installing officer "looked on while the girls initiated this new sister."

Diversions continued to intersperse what they chose, in those days, to call "work." "On Thursday afternoon," the story ran, "the Zeta Tau Alpha girls gave a most enjoyable 'Tallyho' ride, with lunch in the woods. We were given several 'auto' rides by the Misses Rohrer, Bostwick and Gresham, and a theatre party to see 'The Firing Line.'"

"By Thursday, although I had been there quite a while, we had been ex-

tremely busy each day," Ethel Cruse explained. But "to the outsiders it seemed strange. At any rate, one of the teachers (a fraternity woman) came to me and said, 'Miss Cruse, I would like to ask if your fraternity has degrees?'" Whereupon Miss Cruse "braced up and said, 'Well, no, but a series of lectures'." In contrast to the speed of many early-day installations, Brenau probably never figured out the puzzle of Omicron's methodical, unhurried program.

Introducing the chapter in *Themis*, the now-enthusiastic installing officer declared that "our chapter at Brenau is one of which every Zeta Tau Alpha will be proud. It consists of twenty-eight of the most attractive girls one could find."

When Zeta Tau Alpha entered Brenau, it made the ninth group, but "only two of them," Alpha Delta Phi\* and Zeta Tau Alpha, were N.P.C. groups.

PI: Zeta Tau Alpha established its second chapter in the state of Georgia at the institution which boasted the distinction of being the oldest college for women—Georgia Wesleyan College, in Macon.

Conditions leading to the establishment of that chapter were singular for the time. What was considered to be the over-growth of two existing organizations contributed sharply to, and was responsible for, the formation of Zeta's Pi chapter.

The Adelphean (Alpha Delta Pi) and Philomathean (Phi Mu) societies, which were founded at Georgia Wesleyan College, existed in that form for over half a century. Then, soon after the turn of the century (1900), they assumed Greek names and policies, and incorporated under the laws of Georgia, with a view to becoming national organizations.

Formerly these societies carried as many as forty or fifty members on their rolls at one time (considered a tremendous number for that period when large memberships were definitely not in vogue or even thought of), but with their change from a local to a national status, these large groups became unwieldy. Wesleyan College apparently did not consider that a healthy situation, for soon each chapter was limited to twenty-five members.

That rule of limitation was almost directly responsible for the establishment of Pi chapter. The next step could be conjectured in advance. The existing groups could not possibly accommodate all the splendid girls who desired group membership. The result was the formation of a new organization. Its need and place were apparent, for the enrollment was large.

As a consequence, eighteen earnest girls soon formed the group that petitioned Zeta Tau Alpha, and on May 12, 1911, Zeta became the first Greek group to enter Georgia Wesleyan in over half a century. Delta Delta Delta followed in 1913.

Ethel Cruse (Mouton), Alumnæ Chairman, who had inspected the chapter a

\* Later renamed Alpha Delta Pi.

few weeks previously, returned to conduct the installation ceremonies. She was assisted by four members of Omicron chapter.

Excerpts from the *Themis* accounts give a graphic picture of Pi's inspection and installation.

"During those long weeks which seemed like years," Pi wrote, "when we were corresponding with Miss Hopkins . . . sometimes, in our impatience, we almost despaired, and then a letter would come . . . with such a note of encouragement that we would . . . declare that we would never give up until we had gained the things for which we were striving and could wear the badge . . . and be numbered with those who call themselves Zeta Tau Alphas."

Persistence won, and at long last a happy group "gathered in one of the dormitory rooms to hear the reading of the telegram which said that Miss Ethel Cruse would come in a few days to inspect. We tried to keep our plans a profound secret but . . . the very walls had ears, and by the time Miss Cruse reached us we had received numbers of congratulations from our friends and letters of welcome into the fraternity world at Wesleyan from the other sororities. We were given receptions by the Phi Mus, Alpha Delta Phis and Alpha Kappa Psis in their halls, Miss Cruse always being the honor guest."

After those busy "two or three days" of inspection, the Alumnæ Chairman "went to Brenau to pay Omicron a visit," and, one assumed, to report favorably on the petitioning local. When she returned ten days later, "four Omicrons, Ruth Carr, Louise Liddon, Myrtis Beach and Grace Johnson, came with her to give the new chapter a welcome" and assist with the installation.

Ethel Cruse remembered her return to "the pretty little city of Macon, Georgia, on the morning of Wednesday, May 10," for she found waiting for her, "not only five of the girls whom we were to install as Pi chapter . . . but two very attractive Phi Mu girls."

Installation took place on Friday, May 12, "with solemn and imposing ceremonies in the Phi Mu Hall which had been generously offered until ours could be finished," Pi wrote. The services began "immediately after breakfast and lasted until five o'clock. Sixteen girls there pledged to Themis and the sisterhood of Zeta Tau Alpha." The charter members, whom Pi chose to call "the girls of our sweet sixteen," were: Jennie Loyall, Vivian Lee (Parker), Ves Parker, Leonilla Baker (Taylor), Elizabeth Reid (Mack), Lee Wilson (Hatton), Lucille Clements (Heard), Anne Elizabeth Outler (Dyer), Ruby Chester (Jones), Ethel Dobbs (Hancock), Ollie Barmore (Kincaid), Esther Deen (Jordan), Kathleen Hudson (Garner), Walter Tilley (Pierce), Helen and Genevieve White.

Over one hundred guests called when "Phi Mu gave a reception in their hall for Pi chapter." The guests included "Alpha Delta Phis, Alpha Kappa Psis and other friends. The fraternity hall was beautifully decorated in pink and white carnations, with bows of tulle and quantities of spring fern. In the receiving line were: Miss Cruse, Miss Martha Lewis, District Registrar for Phi Mu, Miss



Willie Erwinger, Phi Mu alumna, members of the active chapter of Phi Mu and the girls of Pi chapter."

"The Alpha Delta Psis were also at home to the new chapter in their fraternity hall . . . one afternoon. The girls had composed several clever songs and toasts . . . to the Zeta Tau Alphas. . . . The Alpha Kappa Psis also invited Pi chapter to be with them in their fraternity room."

On the last night of the installing officer's visit they "thoroughly enjoyed a real college feast, and talked as much as [they] possibly could about this new world the sixteen girls were entering."

Concluding her account, the Alumnae Chairman told *Themis* readers that "the girls of Pi chapter, including three juniors, six sophomores, four freshmen and three specials, are in every way fitted to uphold our standard and to be an honor to Zeta Tau Alpha." And, editorially, *Themis* speculated that "Georgia is the fourth state in which Zeta Tau Alpha has planted more than one chapter, and we feel that 'neighborhood' ties will strengthen the already strong bond between our infant chapters, Omicron and Pi."

Strong and highly successful in its every phase of college and fraternity life, the chapter was cut down at the height of its career by a trustees' edict which eliminated Greek-letter groups from that Methodist college. The announcement made to the fraternity through *Themis* in 1914, carried the regrettable news that "Pi chapter had just rounded out its third year, when like the proverbial thunderbolt out of a clear sky, came the trustees' ban on sororities." The rule which resulted in the extinction of the four Greek groups allowed them to continue in existence as long as there were members in college, but no initiations were permitted after June, 1914. Thus, with the graduation of the members then enrolled, the chapter was doomed to extinction and inactive status.

RHO: Only fourteen years after its founding, the Virginia-born Zeta Tau Alpha moved into the northern stronghold of Massachusetts, in the very heart of northern intellectualism and institutions—into a beautiful city famed and revered in American history.

The chapter at Boston University was Zeta Tau Alpha's first full-fledged northern chapter, which came about with the acquisition of a strong five-year-old local club. And the personal element not only entered strongly into the development, but was entirely responsible.

The club was Pro Re Nata, formed May 1, 1907, by eight Boston University girls. Translated, Pro Re Nata meant "created for a purpose." Its twofold object included: (1) "To promote the development of the highest type of womanhood among its members"; (2) "to work for the founding of a new scholarship or other beneficiary for the girls of Boston University."

The founder was a fraternity woman, Elsie Hatch (Wadsworth), Gamma Phi

Beta, '08, and the original members were: Elsie Whipple; Helen Travis (Taylor), Delta Delta Delta; Rosetta Bankwitz (Hayes); Helen Campbell; Beatrice Orozco (Delgadillo); Edith Peck (Allen), and Gladys Smith.

Sufficient unto itself and happy in its own orbit, the club had no thought of competing with, or becoming, a Greek-letter organization. In fact, during its early years two national groups suggested that this fine group petition for a charter, but holding steadfastly to its original purpose, Pro Re Nata declined all offers. During this time the club instituted its "self-sacrifice" box, the outgrowth of which was a savings account—in anticipation of establishing a scholarship at Boston University.

Honors came to the individual members and to the group. Pro Re Nata was honored by an invitation to join Boston University's Panhellenic, the only club invited to membership at that time.

Then a mediator intervened—a good friend of Zeta Tau Alpha's. In the fall of 1911, Ida Shaw Martin, one of the founders of Delta Delta Delta, and the author of *The Sorority Handbook*, sent for Ethel Baird (Carter). At the conference Mrs. Martin strongly advised the club's petitioning a national group. She highly recommended Zeta Tau Alpha, whose Grand President was spending the winter in Boston, and Mrs. Martin was persuasive.

The Pro Re Natas met Dr. Hopkins, who was interning in the North, and after knowing her, the girls voted to petition Zeta Tau Alpha. In a much shorter time than usual, because of Mrs. Martin's high endorsement of Pro Re Nata and their obviously superior standing, the petition was granted.

Washington's birthday, 1912, was celebrated with the installation of Rho chapter by three members of Kappa chapter: Dr. May Agness Hopkins, Grand President; Ethel Cruse Mouton, who was spending the winter with Dr. Hopkins, and Ida Shipman. The story of that day is best told by Mrs. Mouton's account in *Themis*:

Can any Zeta imagine anything more pleasing than celebrating George Washington's birthday by the installation of our first great chapter in the far Northeast?

The pleasure of installing this chapter was quite a surprise, but indeed a pleasant one. Since my arrival in Boston last November I have known these girls and waited anxiously with them for the final decision of the Grand Council, all the time thinking how delightful it would be to be present at an installation by our Grand President.

When February 22 came, the day set for installing, Ida Shipman and I were much excited over Lucile Marcus, one of the grand opera singers we were to hear in concert that afternoon. Here came a telegram call saying that this same Grand President had lost her voice from a severe cold, and that I would have to do the installing. Think of having a grand opera singer and installing a chapter on your mind at the same time! Fortunately, having installed chapters before, I was quite familiar with our beautiful service; and with just a little study I was ready for this honor again.

A more ideal day for southern installers could not have been found. Early in the morning snow began falling thick and fast; and by seven in the evening, the appointed hour, three of Kappa's girls threaded their way through drift after drift of snow to the fraternity rooms in the Albermarle apartments in the Back Bay district, to claim these new daughters of Themis.

The charter members initiated on that snowy day in February were: Edith Hart, Christina Locke, Marion Mitchell (Wright), Lillian Sleeper (Lane), Ada Dow (Harper), Beth Emerson (Young), Elsie Camp (Wells), Louise Alexander (Frye), Florence Dickson, Harriet Pommer, Marion Hardy (Wolfson), Eva Mosher (Brown), Nellie Dexter (McDonald), Grace Lawrence, Leta Warnock (Carlson) and Louise Quirk (Price).

With such a strong beginning, Zeta Tau Alpha promptly took its place among the other nationals on the campus, of which it was the eighth.

**SIGMA:** The scene shifted next to the Sunflower State of Kansas, on the vast western prairie, to a spot near the old Santa Fé trail. And again the name of Ida Shaw Martin entered the picture.

The beginning of Sigma chapter came in the spring of 1911, when its fore-runner, Alpha Theta Nu, was organized by a group of girls whose purpose was to affiliate with a national group. They had a pin, their colors were forest green and gold, and goldenrod was their flower.

When a resident of Baldwin City, Mrs. F. M. Hartley, who was also a member of Delta Delta Delta, became interested in the newly organized unit, her first thought was to communicate with Tri Delta's own Ida Shaw Martin, a Greek-letter authority of importance for many years. Her query for suggestions as to Alpha Theta Nu petitioning a national fraternity met with instant response. When the answer was most promising for Zeta Tau Alpha, the Alpha Theta Nus decided to seek affiliation without delay.

Things moved with dispatch. The petition was presented and the charter was granted. They felt sure that the group picture they sent with their petition helped "make them Zetas." They were standing and grouped around a fireplace—"with a 'flash' in the fireplace, and an AΘN skin over it. It was finished in sepia. We thought it very fancy for that time," Mary Congdon Hollinger said years later. Grace Jordan (Cook), the Grand Vice-President who had already installed several chapters, made the trip to Kansas where, on May, 1912, she installed Sigma chapter at Baker University.

The charter members who, fortunately, had a snapshot taken with Mrs. Cook after the services were: Berna Hannum (Price), Edith Ames (Pyles), Bess O'Brien (Thompson), Mary Congdon (Hollinger), Verdie Noland (Hoover), Hazel Kennedy (Spangler), Ella Jones (Steinheimer), Ruby Mason (Rust), Ada Maxwell (Waring), Una Merryfield (Stephens) and Bess Johnston.

A blurred snapshot was the only picture taken of Sigma chapter on that memorable occasion of installation. Distinguishable, though, is Grace Jordan Cook, fourth from the right. She wore a white suit, and all the new Zetas were in white, too.

Zeta Tau Alpha became the fourth national organization for women at Baker University.



TAU: The third northern chapter was next placed in the very heart of America—the great Middle West—in a city located almost in the center of the state of Illinois, and historically related to the life of Abraham Lincoln.

Tau's story started in 1909 with the strong local organization, Beta Gamma Kappa. On the morning of December 8, when eight eager college girls pinned on ribbons of black, gold and blue, and marched into chapel services, Beta Gamma Kappa was announced to the interested student body of James Millikin University, in Decatur. It was the fourth local group of the period.

The eight charter Beta Gamma Kappas: Ferne Parr (Wilkin), Verl Freyburger (Smurthwaite), Susan Mildred Shipp (Pickering), Edythe Foster (Deck), Hazel Krack, Oscarine Pruitt (Dewhirst), Hazel Dalton (Eash) and Madge Blake made up a serious-minded group with high scholastic standing and individual abilities. They chose as their motto: "Boundless growth of character."

Whatever they did, they did well. The petition which secured official recognition for them was beautifully worded, and set forth the ideals for which they stood: moral and mental growth and high social contacts. The superior qualities of the eight were recognized when the president, Dr. A. R. Taylor, called them into his office the morning after the submission of their petition and told them that theirs was the only one ever unanimously granted by the faculty.

The badge which the Beta Gamma Kappas wore was shield-shaped, with an owl's head at the top. The eyes were set in topaz, while the shield was surrounded with turquoise stones and black enamel.

Since scholarship was paramount, one of the group's well-drawn by-laws stipulated that each member should maintain a grade of at least eighty per cent in every subject, or be barred from all social affairs and fraternity meetings until that grade was achieved. So proficient were they that only twice in two and a half years was it necessary for the president, Ferne Parr (Wilkin), to invoke the penalty attached to the rule, and then only in a temporary way. As a result there were two Kappa\* graduates in 1912, Anna New (Gibson) and Ferne Parr (Wilkin).

Further distinction came when, in 1911, Susan Shipp (Pickering) won the annual short story contest. In 1912 she was vice-president of the senior class and was also the recipient of the first Master's degree granted by Millikin. Her thesis, which in this case was a Roman bench, was placed in a conspicuous place on the campus. That same year Ferne Parr (Wilkin) wrote the class poem and hymn.

As Beta Gamma Kappa became recognized as one of Millikin's strongest groups, it became known in Greek circles. In 1911, two national fraternities sent representatives to interest BTK in affiliating with them. But the group decided to investigate fraternities more thoroughly. They wanted what they con-

\* The Kappa Society was Millikin's equivalent of Phi Beta Kappa.

sidered the best, and most compatible with their own ultra-high standards.

Finally three progressive, but reasonably conservative, nationals were under consideration. Two of them had some good chapters and some weak ones. But the third had a smaller chapter roll, with every chapter strong. Without further preliminaries, Beta Gamma Kappa voted to petition the smaller, but stronger fraternity, Zeta Tau Alpha.

Then in the summer, Mrs. Dwight Young, an interested Millikin Delta Delta Delta, invited Dr. May Agness Hopkins to visit in Decatur, and as was the case with Rho chapter, after meeting and talking to Zeta's President, the Decatur girls were all the more eager to secure a Zeta Tau Alpha charter.

The weeks of waiting seemed long, but early in October, 1912, their hopes were realized in the telegram: "Charter granted." Preparations began at once for the installation which was to be under the direction of the fraternity's brand-new Inspector, Rose Nelson (Hughes), who was in the North to attend the National Panhellenic Conference held in Chicago.

The new officer sent to induct the chapter into Zeta Tau Alpha always remembered and later expressed the trepidation she felt. Her first official assignment was one of major importance, and its implications were not without impact. This was an unusual group.

On the morning of October 26, 1912, Rose Nelson conducted the installation ceremonies that transformed Beta Gamma Kappa into Tau chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha. The services were held in the chapter house (for the group had early acquired its own home), at 1080 West Macon Street. The charter members were: Susan Mildred Shipp (Pickering), Margaret Russell (Breslin), Ferne Parr (Wilkin), Edythe Foster (Deck), Verl Freyburger (Smurthwaite), Helen Ketch (Barnes), Hazel Dalton (Eash), Oscarine Pruitt (Dewhirst), Reva Keagle (McKinney), Ruth Lavery (Downing), Martha McIntosh (Morrison), Carolyn Gillespie (Haner), Ivra Shaw (Gray), Nina Conel (Holmes), Opal Riddle (Wilkinson), Edna Orr (Jenney) and Donna Shipp (Sleeter).

The group's first public appearance since its charter grant was on Saturday morning, the day of Rose Nelson's arrival. Attending chapel in a body, they listened with pride when President Albert Taylor welcomed "another national to Millikin. . . ." Then "that night came the first function of the installation exercises," Edna Orr wrote. The "formal banquet at the St. Nicholas Hotel was indeed a happy gathering and marked the first stepping-stone from local Beta Gamma Kappa to national Zeta Tau Alpha." Margaret Russell acted as the toast-mistress, and toasts were responded to by Miss Nelson, Ferne Parr and Verl Freyburger.

At the installation ceremonies which took place after the banquet, "the alumnae and a few of the active girls were initiated that night, the remaining members being initiated on the Monday following."

On Sunday one of their patronesses entertained the installing officer and

charter members at dinner. That afternoon, at Margaret Russell's home, "the girls were at home" to their closest friends in honor of Miss Nelson. In the receiving line of their Monday afternoon reception at the chapter house, when they were at home to members of the faculty and board, patronesses, fraternity and sorority members and students, were Margaret Russell, Miss Nelson, President Taylor and Mrs. Taylor, Professor Risley (faculty adviser) and Mrs. Risley, Mildred Shipp and Hazel Dalton. One of the city's leading orchestras furnished the music. On Tuesday, Delta Delta Delta entertained them at a Japanese tea, while "at night Pi Beta Phi received between the hours of eight and ten o'clock in our honor."

The installation festivities over, Zeta Tau Alpha took its place as the third national organization to enter the Millikin campus. Likewise, it was Zeta's first chapter in the state of Illinois.

**UPSILON:** The adventurous throngs once rushed westward seeking gold, but Zeta Tau Alpha's second chapter in California was a gold find quietly acquired through the acquisition of a well-established local group whose picturesque name came from Indian lore.

Upsilon's immediate ancestor was the Nekahni Club which began its career on August 1, 1912. From that start was to evolve one of the strongest chapters in the fraternity, with continuous and constant growth. The unusual name of the original group had its source in the wealth of western Indian lore, the legend tracing back to old Mt. Nekahni, in Oregon. There tribal chiefs gathered for ritualistic meetings, councils and general assemblies. Seeking help from the eternal spirit they believed to be their especial protector and counselor, they journeyed to the mountain for guidance.

The founders of Nekahni who selected their name so thoughtfully had as their purpose the association of congenial minds and kindred ideas. The ten original members were: Angelia Kelly (Ashley), Miriam Capp (Douglas), Ruth Hannas, Anna Barker, Rivera Boyd, Lois McQuaid, Christine Bertholas (Olsen), Eleanor Jackson, Vivian Garrett and Mora Hunton. Their common ideal was to create unceasingly an atmosphere in which the intellect and the heart would have every encouragement for development. With this in mind the club built steadily and solidly.

Their pin "was the genuine flint arrowhead set with an N in pearls; the colors were red and green; the flower was the red passion flower—all with their special secret significance." The group early acquired a house, and "the club was organized in general on a plan similar to that of the houses already on the campus, with student self-government at a maximum."

Nekahni's members listed scholastic attainments in good measure. Scholarships were won and honors were achieved by several of the little band. Anna Barker, Rivera Boyd and Irene Baucom (Downing) won special recognition,



while Eleanor Jackson was elected to Prytanean, the women's honor society which represented the ultimate in campus recognition.

Gladys Ayland (Glade), the National Inspector, first visited the group in 1914, when she officially made the formal inspection. Her report being highly favorable and their petition accepted, she returned a year later on May 14, 1915, to add Upsilon to Zeta Tau Alpha's chapter roll.

When, after traveling "three days and three nights from Dallas," she arrived in Berkeley for the installation she "found the girls waiting at the station." They "caught a car for their fraternity house" and "after having tea from the daintiest of tea sets," they had a "good-night chat and retired to begin early the next morning with all there is to do in installing a chapter.

"How eager the girls were, and their eagerness was tinged with excitement over the newness of it all. Each girl took her examination over the fraternity matters in general and Zeta Tau Alpha in particular, and then she was given the pledge service," the installing officer related.

Initiation began "bright and early the morning of May 13, ending with the formal installation and banquet that night." Arriving "for the final installation," Ruth Newell Edenborough "brought a beautiful gift from the Southern California girls."

The charter members were: Eleanor Jackson, Ingeborg Adams, Dove Hart (Beeger), Christine Bertholas (Olsen), Vivian Garrett, Ruth Hannah, Kathryn Sweetser (Schneider), Rivera Boyd (McCarter), Lois McQuaid, Irene Baucom (Downing), Lois Lyon, Olga Foyle (Newby), Angelia Kelly (Ashley), Nell Long (Worth), Carey Miller, Gertrude Frost, Eva Ruth Young (Steilling), Ruth B. Young (Gould), Lillian Walton (Whitney), Margaret Chilson (Woolley), Anna MacKenzie (Thomas) and Olive Smith (Wiley).

The absence of social functions is explained by the fact that secrecy was still the vogue in some places. The members of the new chapter wanted "to have their entrance into the national world a very quiet affair, so there were no formal affairs except the banquet 'for the family only.'" They planned to send announcements at the beginning of the next semester in August, but "in some way the news floated out. The newspapers got hold of the fact that Zeta Tau Alpha was coming to the university" so to correct "some reports . . ." the papers were given a statement that Nekahni Club had been granted a charter by Zeta Tau Alpha.

But they managed to sprinkle "a few extra pleasures into the more than busy weekend," Gladys interpolated. Some of the Nekahni Club's closest friends were entertained at dinner one evening, "and on two occasions some of us slipped away to the Exposition in San Francisco." They "also spent a delightful evening" with one of Berkeley's most prominent musicians.

They regretted that because "the unusual happened—it rained almost the

entire time of the Inspector's stay in Berkeley"—no installation pictures could be taken.

Almost simultaneously with installation were the preparations to send a delegate to the national convention which, while not exactly on its doorstep, was in the state of California.

PHI: Back to the South went the twenty-second charter grant—to a group at a North Carolina college that was considered of superior rank when it was still Trinity College, but which grew to even greater size and influence as the later-day Duke University.

In the year of Phi's installation *Themis* saw "Trinity College . . . filling a place in North Carolina which is filled by no other institution in the state. It is the only college of A rank in North Carolina which offers higher education to women; it is the only college in the state that conforms to the requirements set by the Southern College Association . . . it is also one of the five A colleges for women in the South."

If Zeta Tau Alpha wanted a chapter in North Carolina, and she did, no seer was needed to perceive why the fraternity's interest lay in the college at Durham.

Theta Delta was Phi chapter's predecessor, and Theta Delta came into being on November 13, 1913, when seven Trinity students met in the archive's office of the college to form a local organization. They were Mamie Cheek, Willietta Evans, Annie Hamlen (Swindell), Ila Howerton (Lee), Annie Reade, Laura Tillet and Fannie Vann. The broad purposes they announced were not limited in scope. Theta Delta was dedicated to the promotion and maintenance of a high standard of social living. Further, it was "to instill the characteristics of honor and loyalty into all its members, to encourage proficiency in scholarship, and to make broad-mindedness and versatility [their] aim."

In its local existence of more than a year, Theta Delta not unexpectedly gained distinction. The girls were known for their superior scholarship, for nearly every member belonged to Eko-L, the honorary scholastic organization, and all of them participated in college activities of all types.

In the affairs of Theta Delta itself, everything was worked out with minute care. Organization was excellent and "the requirements for membership were extremely difficult." The in-earnest members meant to make Theta Delta "really stand for something and make its influence felt." They were leaders, and under their leadership the local Panhellenic organization was organized. Theta Delta was the third group on the campus when all of this took place.

There is no doubt but that Zeta Tau Alpha met the test of their high standards, and the satisfaction must have been mutual when, in January, 1915, Theta Delta decided to Petition Zeta Tau Alpha. In April of that year the Grand

Secretary, Clair Woodruff (Bugg), went to visit the chapter for its inspection, and the Alabama-born officer was delighted with the group she found. Soon after, word came that the petition was granted, and Zeta Tau Alpha's first chapter in the state of North Carolina was in the offing. Not much time elapsed, however, and the 1915 installation account explained that "contrary to Zeta Tau Alpha's usual custom, but little time intervened between the granting of the charter to Theta Delta at Trinity, and their installation."

Clair Bugg returned on June 3, 1915, to conduct the installation ceremonies.

Phi's intensely busy installation schedule ruled out all social functions. "The girls were very anxious to become a part of our great sisterhood before commencement," Mrs. Bugg explained, so, soon after receiving word that she was to go, "June third" found her on her way to Durham. She reached there at ten-thirty o'clock Thursday night, but for her the night was just beginning.

"The last car left from the college for town at eleven-thirty," she wrote, "so part of our number had to say good-night soon after reaching the Woman's Building." Delta, the closest chapter, was too far away for its 1915 members to travel to an installation. The installing officer needed assistants so, instead of sending the other three Theta Deltas off to bed, she held "the pledge and initiation ceremonies" for the trio who lived in the building.

"The solemn hour of midnight only added another charm to this beautiful service," Clair declared. "After Fannie Vann, Janie Couch (Hattinwanger) and Willietta Evans were pledged to Zeta Tau Alpha and her noble ideals, the rite of initiation took place." There is no record of how long the services took, but regardless of the hour and her long journey from Virginia, Clair Bugg was more gratified than tired. "What a joy," she wrote, "to feel as we parted for the night that Themis had three more earnest daughters to work for her great aim. . . ."

The other girls were pledged the next morning. The meeting after their noon dinner impressed "upon those present what Zeta Tau Alpha expected of her members." After chapter officers' duties were explained, there was election of officers and a model chapter meeting. But instead of attending the installation banquet that had been planned at first, "Friday evening was consumed in an explanation of the constitution and ritualistic work and drill. There was so much to crowd into those few precious days," Mrs. Bugg declared, "that they called off this pleasure (the banquet) in order [to] give every moment of our time together to good, solid work."

Accordingly, Saturday was given over to the installation of officers, a chapter meeting, and the presentation of the charter. That evening at the home of the group's president, Annie Hamlen (Swindell), the remaining five girls, Annie Hamlen (Swindell), Rose M. Davis, Mozelle Newton (Harwood), Kathleen Hamlen (Watkins) and Lucy Rogers (Richardson) were initiated "in a solemn and beautiful service." At the conclusion of the ceremonies "all retired in the 'wee-



sma' hours, tired but happy and feeling that Zeta Tau Alpha was still moving in the right direction."

Perhaps the three strenuous days took their toll after all, for "Mrs. Bugg left Sunday afternoon after having missed the early morning train."

As "messages of loving wishes came from chapters everywhere," the new group was "thrilled" and "their cup of happiness was filled to overflowing." A thoroughly-grounded, expertly instructed chapter, well equipped to take up the obligations of national life, there was yet a wistful note in their concluding paragraph. "One thing that we regretted," they lamented, "was that we couldn't get in any of the parties, luncheons, et cetera, that we and the other sororities planned. Even the big ZTA banquet for Saturday night at the Melbourne Hotel had to be dispensed with, owing to the short time which we had for installation."

Even though their installation was *sans* social affairs, they *were* installed before commencement, and the firm groundwork they received was to serve Phi well in the years to come.

CHI: The auspicious year of 1915 was brought to a climax by the fortunate acquisition of another superior local group, and an unusual number of firsts was registered when Chi chapter was established at the University of Pittsburgh. Zeta Tau Alpha was the first national women's fraternity to place a chapter there; it was her first chapter in the state of Pennsylvania as well as her first in an urban university.

The local organization, C.I.C., which preceded Chi chapter, was established in December, 1912. The translation of the letters C.I.C., which were secret, was "Companions in Common." That meaning was entirely in keeping with the spirit of the group whose expressed aim was "to promote a kindly feeling among the women of the university, and to create high scholarship."

Nor did superstition hamper the choice of the charter members, for there were thirteen of them, and for the fortunes of C.I.C. the number carried luck. The thirteen were: Martha McNary, Marjorie Duff (Rigg), Nelle Jones, Jessie Rutter (Turk), Alpha Burkart (Wettach), Myra McBride (Scheffter), Eleanor Boyer (Bebout), Lucille Lewis, Dorothea Hitzfeldt (Elshoff), Catherine Bortz (Boartz), Lillian Wood (Gardner), Louise Moye and Helen M. Donaldson.

One of the first local groups on the campus, its members had definite aims which they proceeded to demonstrate by their accomplishments and activities. Alpha Burkart, who wrote the prize-winning pageant, was the first woman on the Student Advisory Council. Helen Donaldson was the first woman on the Athletic Council.

In chronicling their life at this time, they told that "the club took an active part in all phases of university life. Politically, the president, vice-president, and treasurer of the freshman class were among our members. Seven girls . . . were in the Dramatic Club, five were in the Glee Club, and the junior represen-

tative on the *Owl* board, the student yearbook publishers, was a C.I.C."

Then, after almost three years of successful existence, the members decided to take steps toward affiliation with a national organization.

"In the spring of 1915," they wrote, "a petition was sent to one of the national fraternities, but before the answer was received we became interested, through Mrs. Beverley, in Zeta Tau Alpha, and withdrew the petition and sent one to Zeta Tau Alpha in April." In July, 1915, word was received of the charter grant.

Chi's installation took place on November 6, 1915. In charge were the Grand Historian, Ruth Newel Edenborough (Maverick), and Catharine Bingler (Beverley), Delta. Since Catharine Beverley, of Richmond, Virginia, had been responsible for C.I.C.'s petitioning Zeta, it was appropriate that she should assist with the installation. She told how that came about:

Dr. Hopkins' first telegram, telling me that I was to help install . . . delighted me—her second, asking me to leave the following day almost dazed me—but I disposed of husband, dog, Panhellenic meeting and trunk-packing in record time, and delightedly turned my face northward.

Mrs. Edenborough had arrived Monday night, and when I got in on Tuesday, had already arranged for meetings, with the girls. After luncheon we went first to the university, then to the fraternity rooms where we talked with the girls, discussed handbook questions and went over other routine work.

The two were entertained in the hospitable home of Pearl Reed. That night the two installing personages had a little refresher work to do themselves, for they "studied the ritual, pledge service and instructions from Dr. Hopkins."

The next day they pledged "twenty-one splendid girls, answered questions, waded through mazes of pin blanks, and made final preparations for initiation at Pearl Reed's the following day."

Thursday was the "red-letter day . . . for it added twenty-one loyal, earnest Zetas, full of enthusiasm and high purpose to further the ideals of Zeta Tau Alpha." It took time to initiate that many candidates, for each girl was given an individual initiation. The services began at nine o'clock in the morning. "Soon the girls from Theta and Wellsburg Alumnæ arrived," so when they "stopped for luncheon, there was a goodly gathering." After luncheon, initiations continued until eight o'clock, when they "stopped for dinner. . . . At dinner, music and Zeta Tau Alpha songs mingled with 'What we do at Kappa,' 'How it is at Theta' and 'Delta does thus—'." After dinner the last two initiations were followed by a ritual meeting "which took us so far into Friday morning that we got up almost before we went to bed," Mrs. Beverley wrote.

The charter members were: Florence Miller (Willison), Marjorie Duff (Rigg), Alpha Burkart (Wettach), Dorothea Hitzfeldt (Elshoff), Marie Groetzing (Harton), Florence Hansen (Barnum), Pearl Reed, Ann Jones (Moore), Catherine Bortz (Boartz), Wilhelmina Hansen (Stewart), Jessie Rutter (Turk), Myra McBride (Scheffter), Lucille Lewis, Eleanor Boyer (Bebout), Sara Bonnett (Shearer),

Grace Sefton (Mayer), Louise Moye, Helen M. Donaldson, Lillian Wood (Gardner) and Martha McNary. Thelma Rose (Asbaugh), whose name is on Chi's charter, was initiated a few weeks later.

Chi's was a gala installation—an outstanding event on the Pittsburgh campus—that was accompanied by a whirl of social functions given not only by the chapter but by cordial well-wishers.

The installation banquet was held in Pearl Reed's home, which was "handsomely decorated with palms, ferns, white carnations and chrysanthemums." Other social functions included a formal reception for students and faculty given at the home of Alpha Burkart, "the reception rooms being decorated with chrysanthemums, ferns, Kilarney roses and palms which made a charming background for the handsomely-gowned hostesses." In the receiving line were the chapter president, Alpha Burkart, Mrs. Edenborough, Mrs. Beverley, Martha McNary, Marjorie Duff, Lucille Lewis, Marie Groetzinger and Florence Miller.

Mrs. S. B. McCormack, wife of Pittsburgh's Chancellor, honored the new group with a tea, as did Mrs. Louis Heath. Delta Sigma Pi's house dance for them "was a prettily appointed affair." Delta Omicron (later Delta Delta Delta) gave a tea, while Sigma Chi and Sigma Alpha Epsilon entertained the new Zeta Tau Alpha and Kappa Alpha Theta chapters "at a thé dansant at the Bellefield Club." Three other fraternities, Delta Sigma Pi, Delta Tau Alpha and Phi Zeta, also complimented them with "delightful evening parties at their chapter houses."

The high esteem in which the group was held was indeed clearly demonstrated.

OMEGA:\* The opening of a new university in Dallas virtually foretold the establishment of another Zeta chapter in the state of Texas—the third.

Simultaneously with the opening of Southern Methodist University, and the entrance of five Zetas whose devotion to their fraternity was matched by their works, the first plans were laid for the chapter that was to be Omega. As *Themis* expressed it, "the wheels of time are never still and the appointed hour had arrived when another chapter was to join the loyal bonds of Zeta Tau Alpha." Of course the writer referred to the actual installation, but the "appointed hour" was presaged a year previously. After all, the President of Zeta Tau Alpha lived in Dallas—a fact not to be overlooked. And the leader of the five did not overlook it.

It was a privilege, Dr. Hopkins said later, to initiate a group of charming girls "in a university in my own city." Writing in *Themis*, she told of being

\* Although Omega was installed first, the University of Washington chapter had, through negotiations, a prior claim to the letter *Psi*. Thus the order here is not in accord with the Greek alphabet.



invited to a luncheon which turned out to be a well-planned affair for the purpose of promoting the desired new chapter at S.M.U.—a pre-Omega planning conference. Alert Julia Coe (Rose), whose loyalty was backed up by a willingness to act, made it all very plain when she announced that “the University opens Monday and fraternities are to be admitted, and we simply must have a chapter there.”

The chapter was virtually ready-made, for Julia Coe (Rose), Mary Terrell (Morris), Catherine Splawn (Groves), Delta; Annie Laurie Bass (Marsh) and Evelyn Callicutt, Lambda, enrolled at Southern Methodist University that first year. The conclusion that “already Zeta Tau Alpha almost had a chapter with her transfers” was correct. And they represented more than the mere transferring of members from one place to another. Their capability was such that two of the group were to become National Inspectors. As she watched them, Zeta’s President said that “their un baffled courage, their patience and their careful discernment added one by one the members who were to compose Omega.”

“This group had the unusual distinction of not formally petitioning Grand Chapter in the usual way,” Evelyn Callicutt wrote years later. “Dr. Hopkins was there in Dallas, there were alumnæ who were interested in seeing a chapter there and most of the mechanics of petitioning were taken care of by Dr. Hopkins. At any rate we worked under the assumption from the beginning that we would be chartered.”

Certain as that eventual chartering was, however, some time was to elapse before installation took place. It was Evelyn Callicutt’s impression that “all other fraternities were in the same circumstances. Some charters were waiting when the University opened its doors on the first day.” But regardless of that, Omega had to win its spurs. Zeta’s President had decided to make very sure about everything, including the scholastic stability of the prospective members.

Although an earlier installation date would have been possible had certain qualifying rules not been set up, Dr. Hopkins wrote that “the enthusiasm of organization did not overshadow the high standards to be maintained, so an agreement was made that no pledge would be initiated until a definite number of courses were passed, and a certain average was attained. Thus the installation was deferred until after the first semester, which ended in December.”

Since that agreement and the standards required were Zeta’s own, reflecting an official stipulation, it was later noted that this probably prevented Zeta Tau Alpha from being the first national organization to be installed on the new campus, where five enterprising Zetas and their members-to-be waited eagerly.

Zeta’s earlier *History* commented that “such insistence being typically Zeta, no one has ever regretted it or felt that any real loss resulted thereby.” Be that as it may, the strength and prestige that Omega was to attain did not disprove the wisdom of that careful course.

During the months of waiting and the orientation of the carefully selected

new members, the group had one goal in mind—installation. Everything depended upon grades. Finally the requirements were met. Examinations were over and successfully passed. The way was then open for the establishment of a Zeta Tau Alpha chapter.

Assisted by the Dallas Alumnae chapter, Dr. Hopkins formally installed Omega chapter on the night of January 15, 1916. "The night was so beautiful it seemed everyone should be at peace with the world," the installation story in *Themis* said, "however, anything but peace reigned in the hearts and minds of ten frightened 'goats'<sup>†</sup> as they entered the side door of the home of Julia Coe. The front of the house was in total darkness and a mystic stillness invaded the place."

Up the back stairs they went "and huddled in one small room to await the silent summons. One by one our number dwindled. . . . When the last summons had come, and the final vows were taken, Dr. Hopkins made a formal presentation of a charter to Omega chapter . . . and the old initiates sang to us a song of welcome.

"Then the doors were opened wide, lights burned and it was truly a merry scene." A buffet luncheon was then served.

In addition to the Zetas attending the university, the charter members were: Frances Henry (Boger), Mary Lena Watson (Hippard), Bernice Crow (Miller), Helen Hutchinson (Mallory), Gertrude Mann (Allen), Fern Tate (Lewis), Alberta Lloyd (McQueen), Mary Freeman (Rowan) and Philma Archer (Gadberry).

When the story was told and the chapter announced, the moving spirit whose energy had sparked the movement did not go unrecognized. "Thus it was Julia," the Omega-story said, "with her enthusiasm supported by a never-ceasing determination to win the goal she aimed for, [who] brought forth Omega chapter."

In the order of entrance, Zeta Tau Alpha was the fourth national group to place a chapter at Southern Methodist University.

PSI: The beginning of Zeta Tau Alpha's first chapter in the far Northwest "on the shores of Lake Washington, with the peaks of the Olympic and Cascade mountains looking down upon it," had its impetus in another Panhellenic friendship.

Preceding it all was a local organization first known merely as Zeta. From it "the Washington petitioning group came into existence in the spring of 1916, through the efforts of Margaret Myers, Alpha Xi Delta, '14. Miss Myers was prompted by loyalty to her grand president whose friendship for Dr. Hopkins commended such service."

<sup>†</sup> This long-unused term, which was common usage in the days of the Founders, survived for many years, especially in the South.

Miss Myers worked unremittingly and successfully for the little group. When she left the university she provided for a continuation of that support, its sponsorship being taken over by another Alpha Xi Delta, Ella Richter. She, too, gave unstintingly of time and service. When Psi chapter was installed, the Seattle *Post-Intelligencer* noted that "these girls have existed as a local sorority only through the summer, when they took a house on the boulevard and became known as Zeta. However, for the past two years a group of them have been working for this national."

That was true, for "during the summer," Eleanor McGrew wrote, "the girls who desired to receive a charter from Zeta Tau Alpha managed to secure a most desirable chapter house in one of the best locations possible, in the very heart of Fraternity Row."

By fall all was in readiness and feverish arrangements were made to entertain the officer who was coming to visit them. "For many days before Dr. Hopkins' arrival," they wrote, "it was a moot question with us as to whether she should be received in state at the house, or be taken to visit at the homes of the girls. Finally it was decided that since college had not yet opened, the most generally acceptable scheme was to entertain her for a week of her stay at the home of Marie Vining, the president of the group." Apprehension evidently seized the original band who viewed Dr. Hopkins' arrival with such trepidation, for Eleanor McGrew's description of it in *Themis* of November, 1917, was vivid.

"It is betraying no secrets of the order to tell the world frankly that the members of the Washington petitioning group were openly frightened to the point of hysterical wailing when a quota left to meet Dr. Hopkins. There are a number of things to worry about when you are placed on probation, and the train bringing the installing officer to Seattle was destined to furnish us with much joy or painful gloom . . . [For] . . . on the personality of the installing officer rested, in the mind of the waiting chapter, the future of its members in relation to Zeta Tau Alpha."

Dr. Hopkins herself related that "upon my arrival in Seattle, Friday night, I was met by most of the girls composing the charter members. Can you imagine that picture at the station? Well [with], all formalities over, and a little chat with the girls as to the plan for the next day, we disbanded; for many of the girls are Seattle girls and of course live at home. . . . Early the following morning we met at the chapter house—yes, just think of it, the baby sister already managing a chapter house, and such a lovely one as it is, too. You would really be jealous if you could see it. . . ."

In the chapter's chronicle they reported that "the first really important meeting of the girls with our Grand President was on Sunday, when we had an all-day session at the house. Dr. Hopkins explained the purposes and ideals of Zeta Tau Alpha, embodied to some slight degree in the constitution, and instructed us in our conduct on the night of initiation, and in regard to our



relations with other fraternities for all time. Details of what the established chapters of Zeta Tau Alpha were doing and had done, information concerning which we were sadly in need, kept us interested for all one afternoon.

"Before Monday, September 17, the night set for initiation, the entire group of girls was in a state of excitement impossible to describe, except to those who have waited for the gradual unfolding of the mysteries surrounding Greek-letter fraternities.

"We were asked if we could be ready for initiation Monday. Ready for initiation! We had counted on a week of preparation at least, and though we were somewhat timorous about the actual ceremonies, we were eager to be really received in the Zeta Tau Alpha bonds."

The "actual ceremonies" to which the girls looked forward so eagerly, yet timorously, were held at the chapter house, 4718 University Boulevard, when Dr. Hopkins installed Psi chapter. The charter members were: Marie Vining (Lundeen), Eleanor McGrew (Winslow), Dorothy Sutton (Herron), Nellie Watson, Barbara Gamwell, Marjorie Pierrot (Campbell), Helen Bushnell (Runner), Norma Matson (Jerbert), Margaret Smith (Stauffer) and Florence Swartz.

Following initiation, "at the suggestion of the installing officer, a spread was held at the chapter house. When we actually received the legal charter which binds us to the other chapters of Zeta Tau Alpha, and with secret satisfaction picked out our own names on the parchment and remembered that every freshman from now on will be learning that roll by heart, we felt morally entitled to our new honor," Psi declared.

"Tuesday, a reception was held at the Women's University Club, to which representatives of the various women's fraternities on the campus, women of the faculty and wives of faculty members, were invited. . . . In the evening after a short visit with the dean of women, Dr. Hopkins left for Yakima as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Vining." Left behind were "a houseful of girls as enthusiastic about their new fraternity, and hopeful of future prospects, as it is well possible to be."

Sincere was their feeling. "Psi chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha is the newest addition to seventeen national women's fraternities at the University of Washington, and we desire above all things to find favor in the eyes of our national." Their "flying start," plus "the cooperation and ready assistance of the rest of the Greek-letter organizations on the campus," among other things, "led us to the confident assertion that with our ideals and ambitions, in time Zeta Tau Alpha of Washington will be regarded the country over as the most worthy fraternity," the chapter secretary, Eleanor McGrew, concluded.

ALPHA ALPHA: The end of the Greek alphabet had been reached. The next chapter would bear a double designation and it would start the chapter roll down the alphabet again, but prefixed by the letter *Alpha*.

The chapter that had the honor of starting off the Alpha series was an officially sponsored group at the oldest college west of the Mississippi. In the year that Iowa Wesleyan College observed its Diamond Jubilee, in 1917, six courageous girls "started out to make a pilgrimage, feeling that there were many girls who would willingly make the journey if the opportunity were offered them." That was true.

Omicron Sigma Pi, founded May 12, 1917, was organized at the suggestion of President Edwin Schell and Miss Harriet L. Barber, the dean of women, who felt that there was room for another organization at Iowa Wesleyan, and also a need for one. Omicron Sigma Pi, therefore, had administrative sanction and approval, and the members selected were also approved. The membership roll of the local group carried the names of: Ruth Thorson (Nast), Marie Anderson (Bloom), Florence Resor, Mary Powelson (Warhurst), Berdine Coles (Freeborn), Lorea Boyer (Hughes), Mary Creath, Annette Iles, Zella Jordan (Flores), Marie Tomlinson, Florence Weaver (Thompson), Florence Hilgartner (Dodds), Helen Weaver, Anna Singer and Edythe Rothenstein (McCullough).

The new organization prospered from the start. Seven of its members were elected to Iota Phi, the honorary scholarship fraternity. Three belonged to the Glee Club and three were in the dramatic club whose director was Mary Powelson (Warhurst), a professor of oratory at the college.

While en route home from the Chicago Grand Chapter meeting, Fanny Hunter (Taylor), Grand Vice-President (then Acting President), stopped in Mt. Pleasant on July 8, 1918, to inspect the group that had been so highly recommended to Zeta Tau Alpha. The visit was mutually satisfactory and as a result of the great interest and enthusiasm of President Schell, arrangements were made for an early installation date—almost immediately, in fact. "Miss Hunter made us the happiest girls in the world when she said she would endorse our petition," Alpha Alpha wrote in the next (November) issue of *Themis*.

In less than a month Gladys Ayland (Glade), Grand Historian, arrived to officiate at the formal installation services which took place on August 19, 1918, at the country home of Neva and Annette Iles. Those who became charter members were: Josephine Vandall (Stansell), Edythe Rothenstein (McCullough), Berdine Coles (Freeborn), Marie Tomlinson, Marie Anderson (Bloom), Mildred Kemble, Florence Weaver (Thompson), Gladys Weaver (Statler), Helen Weaver, Florence Hilgartner (Dodds), Lorea Boyer (Hughes), Ruth Thorson (Nast), Neva Iles (Nihart), Annette Iles, Mary Creath, Eva Aeringdale (Erb), Gladys Ward, Mary Powelson (Warhurst), Lucille Robertson and Frances Jones (Brown).

"The faculty of Iowa Wesleyan does not allow the girls' fraternities here to have chapter houses," Alpha Alpha wrote, "but we have two lovely large rooms just across from the north campus and the athletic field."

Zeta Tau Alpha was the fourth national fraternity for women at Mt. Pleasant.

ALPHA BETA: Zeta Tau Alpha's second chapter in the state of Pennsylvania was established at the height of World War I.

On the campus of the University of Pennsylvania, in the year 1916, there existed two national and three local societies for women.

During the Christmas vacation that year, several girls gathered together and discussed plans for starting another society. As a result, in May, 1917, the group announced itself as Alpha Delta Theta, although its first meeting was held February 17, 1917, following December's preliminaries. It was a coincidence that bids from the existing organizations went out the very day of Alpha Delta Theta's founding.

The founders were: Nora B. Thompson, Sarah McLean, Josephine P. Motheral, Florence Taylor, Marguerite Fisher, Minnie LaRose (Van Valey), Catherine Gage and Deborah Davis (Moore). Characteristic of the stability of those founders, Alpha Delta Theta's planning was quite complete. The new group overlooked no details. Its badge, generally considered the most attractive of the local pins, was a crescent-shaped gold pin bearing eight pearls (for the eight founders), with the raised letters of  $\Delta \Delta \Theta$ , symbolic of its secrets.

It was a group composed of sincere, scholarly and purposeful college women, "representative of the true American home." The members were held in high esteem by the faculty, and their purpose was the securing of scholarship and friendship, "and to become a link in a national fraternity." They chose Zeta Tau Alpha because of its motto and object—"To perform such deeds and to mould such opinions as will conduce to the building up of a nobler and purer womanhood in the world."

In June, 1918, Grand Chapter sent the Grand Historian, Gladys Ayland (Glade), to inspect the petitioning group. She was accompanied by another member from Mu chapter, Ethel Rollins (Harrison). Because of lost mail they arrived unannounced and unexpected, but Alpha Delta Theta's equilibrium seems not to have been upset, for the pleasure of having the welcome visitors outweighed the surprise element. The Zetas from Missouri were heartily welcomed and "the week of inspection proved delightful for everyone."

One of the big pushes of World War I came in July, and the country was in the clutches of tension and war activity. But the wartime Grand Chapter functioned smoothly and "only a short interval elapsed before Alpha Delta Theta received word that they had been granted a charter."

"With quaking hearts and nerveless spirits, three of us went to the station to meet the three Zetas arriving from Washington, D.C., who were to install the chapter," Alpha Beta wrote. "Before an hour had gone by, however, we felt that we were all old friends, and we were all ready to be instructed in our new duties." The three visitors were engaged in government work during the war.

Thus it was that the Grand Treasurer, Mary Patrick, Beta, went to Philadelphia from Washington, D.C., to install Alpha Beta chapter, and took with her



Mabel O'Connor (Lipscomb), Kappa, and Mary Ann Gillespie, Tau, as assistants. They arrived on September 22, 1918. The charter members who were pledged on the afternoon of September 27 at the home of Marion Holmes (Jones), Farragut Terrace, were: Nora Thompson, Minnie LaRose (Van Valey), Josephine Motheral, Catherine Gage, Sarah McLean, Marguerite Fisher, Marion Holmes (Jones) and Deborah Davis (Moore). "Unfortunately," the chapter reported, "there were but seven of us to be initiated, since one of our girls was ill with Spanish influenza (which struck with epidemic force that fall) and another is in Nashville. . . ."

The installation account spoke of the "difficulties attending life in a city university," especially "the week before the opening." But "not all our time, however, was given to the business sessions, for on Thursday we enjoyed a dainty luncheon at the home of Marion Holmes, and on Saturday afternoon in the Graduate Women's Hall we had the pleasure of meeting representatives of the faculty and the other nationals at the university. It was delightful to note the cordial relations between all the nationals and also between the faculty and the women students."

After commenting on the fascination of the historic city of Philadelphia, the chronicler concluded that "midst such surroundings and the traditions of the university, it is not strange that already several Alpha Beta girls are taking their places in the larger world's work, and we can but predict great things for our new sisters from the City of Brotherly Love."

Those new sisters had a fraternity room about which they wanted the fraternity to know, but which they refrained from describing because "we are on the point of moving, and have not yet decided upon a place. . . ." The reason for the indecision was beyond their control. "It seems impossible," they declared, "to find a room within the vicinity of the college, as all available spots are being seized upon by the military authorities for the ten or fifteen thousand students who now comprise the S.A.T.C. However, the prospect of house-hunting daunts us not." Because, for their well-dressed fraternity room of 1918 they had

a lovely pair of curtains with crocheted strips bearing the initials Z.T.A.; a square tablecloth of steel grey with turquoise blue crocheted corners containing the initials "A.B."; and in the process of making, a table runner and pillow of grey and blue appropriately marked. Though the key to our cedar chest has suddenly disappeared and the lock has to be broken, the thoughts of all our "pretty things" are upholding us.

The chapter became the fourth national fraternity for women at the University of Pennsylvania.

## Conventions and Grand Chapter Meetings

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### Fifth National Convention

ARKANSAS set a high standard in convention hospitality, but Galveston, "The Oleander City" of Texas, rose admirably to its role as host to the fifth biennial convention, on June 16-18, 1910. The local press declared that "it is indeed an honor of which the city of Galveston is duly proud, to have the delegates from . . . all over the United States . . . assemble in this city." Plans and events meant for the Zetas to enjoy themselves, and of course to get some work done. The officers would see to that. But a new element entered the picture at Galveston. That element was men, for more than at any convention held before, or afterwards, men played a prominent, if not dominant, role in the social program. Four-year-old Kappa and Lambda were the hostess chapters, but the chairman of the reception committee who put his heart into his work was E. W. Bertner, a medical-school colleague of the President, who sent the following letter to the members of Alpha Kappa Kappa on June 14, 1910:

Dear Sir:

The Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority, comprising about 60 young ladies from all parts of the United States, will meet in Galveston, June 16 to 18, inclusive.

The Sorority will hold an open meeting, Thursday, June 16, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon, they will be tendered a reception at the Scottish Rite Hall. On the evening of Thursday, June 16, the young ladies will be entertained with a Boat Sail. Boats will leave Pier 23, at 7:30 p.m. On the evening of Friday, June 17, a Dance will be given in their honor, at the Surf Bath House, and at 5:00 p.m. Saturday, June 18, a Bathing Party, at the Surf Bath House, will be enjoyed.

I, as Chairman of the Reception Committee, extend to you a cordial invitation to attend the above mentioned functions. I am particularly desirous of having you attend the reception, morning of Thursday, June 16. Each young lady will wear a tag, showing her name, age, disposition, and whether or not she is heart-whole and fancy-free, etc. I am anxious to have the Galveston boys meet all of the Sorority girls, and for this reason, I would request that all persons attending the reception introduce themselves to as many young ladies as possible.

Regarding the Dance at the Surf Bath House, evening of Friday, June 17. The Reception Committee will pay for rent of Hall, Programs, etc., but others attending the affair will be required to pay their pro rata of the cost of the music, which . . . will not be over \$1.50—probably less.



*FIFTH NATIONAL CONVENTION OF ZETA TAU ALPHA. JUNE 16, 17, 18, 1910*

#### THE GALVESTON CONCLAVE

The chairman's concluding line, "trusting that you will be able to participate in the various entertainments in honor of the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority" was completely realized. No young man seemed to have any intention of missing anything if he could help it.

At the first session, held in the Scottish Rite Cathedral, the President's "words of welcome made all the visiting sisters feel perfectly at home." Margaret Levy (Feuille's) opening address enlarged on "The Advantages of Being a Fraternity Girl," while Professor W. E. Metzenthin, of the University of Texas, told about "The Fraternity Girl in Athletics." The fraternity's twelve years were reviewed by the President. Musical features were songs and solos by Agnes Kirkland (Hall) and Bertha Cruse (Gardner), Beta. Then, with the opening session duly held, it was time for the first of the continuing social events that highlighted the meeting. "A number of local friends of the delegates among the sterner sex . . . appeared upon the scene and amid the strains of music a reception and dance completed the morning's activity," the Zetas reported demurely.

All grand officers were present except Mrs. Davis. Between conventions two resignations had resulted in the appointment of Mary Patrick as Treasurer, and the selection of Bruce Houston Davis (not long allowed to stay in retirement)



as Historian. Official delegates were: Hellen Patrick (Cruse), Beta; Jeanette McMurray, Delta; Kathleen Tillman (Shaver), Epsilon; Leonora Graves (Otts) and Frances Graves, Zeta; Ethel Charnock, Theta; Helen Baker, Iota; Allie



THE GRAND CHAPTER ELECTED IN 1910

Barcus, Lambda; Virginia Bedford (Thornton), Kappa; Helen Parker (Sweeney) and Isabel Shepard, Mu; Lulu Cook (Connel) and Clara Belle Senn, Nu.

Clair Bugg, it was recorded, "has for the first time organized the Grand Secretary's material into a card catalogue system," while "by her unceasing and never tiring efforts" Mary Patrick has done much to lessen the financial burden of *Themis*.

Business transacted included final adoption of an official pledge pin; adop-

tion of an official flag; acceptance of Mrs. Davis' history thus far; appointment of an extension committee (with Helen Baker, Iota, chairman); the appointment of an Alumnæ Secretary [Ethel Cruse (Mouton), Kappa]; official consideration of amalgamation with Delta Zeta;<sup>1</sup> authorization of a secret publication and the appointment of a committee to select a Greek name and a new secret motto; the decision to use white and black balls in voting, and the agreement to penalize members who failed to vote without good reason.

Three new charters (Mu, Nu and Xi) had been granted since the last convention. The custom of chapter members wearing turquoise blue and gray ribbons under their badges the day of the installation of a new chapter had its inception at this time.

Under discussion at this, as well as at the previous convention, was the then-important issue of whether or not the initiation oath was too binding. The Richmond alumnæ considered the point paramount. An explanatory phrase finally disposed of the issue.



*Themis, July, 1911*

**ETHEL CRUSE MOUTON.** This picture of Ethel Cruse Mouton, Alumnæ Chairman, who installed Omicron and Pi chapters, appeared in the issue of *Themis* which announced the Georgia Wesleyan chapter.

Convention learned that all previous convention legislation had been carried out with the exception of the Founders' Day program and the printing of membership certificates. The President explained that "the committee appointed to arrange a program for said occasion [Founders' Day] submitted their work . . . but as it was after October 25,<sup>2</sup> it was too late to notify chapters." Concerning the certificates: "the committee appointed to design the membership certificates completed their work, but owing to a lack of funds the certificates have never been printed."

Report cards were voted. *Themis*, having advanced to the eminence of securing second-class mailing rights, had added a fourth issue, the July number. Grand Chapter dues for alumnæ, reduced from \$3 to \$2, were to include a subscription to *Themis*. Examinations, held by the Grand President, were to be given in alternate years instead of yearly. The demit, necessary for an official transfer from one chapter to another, came into being.

For transgression of rules one firm was dropped as official jeweler. To be revised and made uniform was the initiation ceremony, with revision also slated for the constitution and ritual. The offices of Vice-President and Editor, previously combined, were separated, but those of the Grand Treasurer and Business Manager became a new combination.

Zeta Tau Alpha named its first Panhellenic delegate when May Hopkins was chosen to act as the official delegate to the September meeting of the National Panhellenic Conference in Chicago.

Grand officers elected were: President, May Agness Hopkins; Vice-President, Grace Jordan (Cook); Secretary, Clair Woodruff (Bugg); Treasurer, Mary L. Patrick; Historian, Bruce Houston Davis; Editor, Margaret Levy (Feuille).

Old Point Comfort, Virginia, was selected as the next convention site.

Socially there was never another convention like it. Nor could there be, for Zeta Tau Alpha was growing up fast, and never again would there be a contingent of medicos dedicated to giving a small group of girls the rush of their lives.

"The tireless efforts in our behalf of the young men of the Texas Medical Department and their friends, especially of Alpha Kappa Kappa, of which our Grand President is an honorary member" were all of that and more. Enthusiastic was their zeal in assisting their honorary member in entertaining "her sisters." Waiting not-too-patiently at the door for business sessions to end were those "gallant medical students," ready to whisk the Zetas away "to some new diversion."

There was a luncheon at the Surf Hotel, convention headquarters, following the first morning's opening session. A romantic note was the moonlight launch ride over the bay and around Galveston Harbor—"with musical accompaniment."

"Throughout the trip," the Galveston paper said, "the launches (the *Panther* and *Pelican*) remained side by side, and returned to the wharf about 11:30 o'clock. A large supply of refreshments had been taken on board, and the evening was passed most pleasantly." The paper carried the medico-dominated male guest list.

Friday night the Zetas were "entertained at the Surf Bathing Pavilion with a reception and dance, by the young men of Galveston." Not unexpectedly, the young men were still in full attendance at Saturday afternoon's surf party when "the delegates assembled in full force at the Surf bathhouse and . . . a most enjoyable time was had in the salty waters of the Gulf."

Continuing its close coverage, the *Tribune* followed through with the information that "from the Surf bathhouse the many young ladies bade farewell to their many friends among the sterner sex, and repairing to the Surf Hotel prepared themselves in their best for the final convention banquet. . . ."

"With true fraternity spirit," the paper reported,<sup>3</sup> "the comely delegates resolutely turned deaf ears to the pleadings of the men who sought admission to the banquet, and promptly at 9 o'clock the entire assemblage of girls gathered at the festive board, alone but not unsought. . . ."

The newspaper was correct. "About nine o'clock" the Zetas "marched in pairs to the banquet hall" (the dining parlors of the hotel), where they found the table arranged in the shape of a large "T," in honor of the hostess state. The



palms and ferns of the decorations “were brightened by sprays of Galveston’s lovely oleander.” From a hidden nook came the strains of an orchestra playing a “selection of music that was especially fitting for a gathering where beauty and nobleness were paramount in thought.”

Delegates were delighted with the souvenir stickpins sent by Fetting, the official jeweler, and with the artistic gray leather souvenir programs cunningly contrived for autographs, which the official publisher, George Banta, provided. On the menu cards was the new coat-of-arms. Important as was that new arms, the banquet menu itself was important, too, for it was typical of a period when menus were often notable. Galveston’s nobly lived up to the tradition. *Themis* printed it for the stay-at-homes to read.

|                          |                                   |                      |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
|                          | Menu                              |                      |
| Salted Almonds           |                                   | Sour Gherkins        |
|                          | Caviar Canape                     |                      |
|                          | Soups                             |                      |
|                          | Consomme in Cup                   |                      |
| Tenderloin Trout         | Tartar Sauce                      | Julienne Potatoes    |
|                          | Entrees                           |                      |
|                          | Sweetbreads Saute, with Mushrooms |                      |
|                          | Roast                             |                      |
|                          | Filet of Beef                     |                      |
|                          | Salads                            |                      |
| California Tips on Toast |                                   | Imported French Peas |
|                          | Lettuce and Tomato Salad          |                      |
| Sodaette Crackers        |                                   | American Cheese      |
|                          | Desserts                          |                      |
|                          | Ice Cream and Cake                |                      |
|                          | Drinks                            |                      |
|                          | Fruit Punch                       |                      |

The toasts,<sup>4</sup> with Margaret Levy (Feuille) as toastmistress, were:

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Our President .....                                  | Mrs. J. L. Bugg   |
| When Greek Meets Greek .....                         | Jeanette McMurray |
| Our Infant Sisters .....                             | Leonora Graves    |
| A Prophet in a Strange Land .....                    | Isabel Shepard    |
| The Adamless Garden of Eden .....                    | Hellen Patrick    |
| Zeta Tau Alpha’s Début in National Panhellenic ..... | Zoie Nesbit       |
| Extension .....                                      | Helen Baker       |
| Auf Wiedersehen .....                                | Lulu Cooke        |

With the final toast, the convention held on the Gulf of Mexico came to an end. The sound of the surf, the caress of the June sea breeze, the glimmer of the soft southern moon through the open windows, its silver light softly covering the banks of palm and oleander, all merged into the nostalgic picture of that night.

### Sixth National Convention

Generally considered a homecoming, the *Richmond Virginian*<sup>5</sup> told its readers that "an event of wide interest throughout Virginia and the South was the sixth biennial convention of the Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity, recently held at the Chamberlain Hotel, Old Point Comfort. Practically the entire hotel was at the disposal of the delegates who made the halls resound with fraternity songs and yells, and added a brilliant dash of color to what is usually the quiet season."

The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* declared it to be an "event of interest in college and society circles throughout Virginia," while the *Virginian's* preliminary story said that "this announcement is of much general interest, as there are several hundred girls throughout Virginia who are alumnae of the fraternity, and to whom this notice will bring a flood of college memories of by-gone days."

Zeta Tau Alpha appeared to be equally as gratified at the prospect of this Virginia homecoming on June 26-28, 1912, for it "not only gives us an opportunity to visit places of historical interest, but also, in a measure, it resolves a duty we owe to the cradle of our fraternity." Recalling that "not since Zeta Tau Alpha assumed the proportions of a national fraternity has the convention been held with a Virginia chapter as the hostess," the inference seemed to be that it was high time to travel Virginia-ward again. Attendance figures confirmed that, for the heaviest convention registration thus far was recorded. The presence of four Founders, Maud Jones (Horner), Frances Yancey Smith, Alice Welsh and Helen Crafford, lent inspiration to the assembly.

After a two days' preliminary Grand Chapter meeting the convention opened auspiciously at the Hotel Chamberlain.<sup>6</sup> The speaker for the open meeting, introduced by Helen Becker (Ellis), Delta, was Dr. H. C. Lipscomb, of Randolph-Macon Woman's College, who talked on "A Woman's Liberal Education; What Should the Fraternity Offer?"

Again the first meeting was resolved into "an informal reception" following the appointment of convention committees.

Business sessions were presided over by the President. Seated by her was Maud Jones Horner, the first Grand President. Bruce Davis was the only grand officer not present. The official delegates were: Emmette Matthews (Garner) and Jewel Davis (Galloway), Beta;<sup>7</sup> Frances Klase (Hady), Delta; Ruth Barrett (Fox), Epsilon; Mary Hardin (McCown), Zeta; Daisy Lee Ramsey (Clark), Theta; Frances Clay, Lambda; Grace Cannady (McCann) and Niena Isherwood (Henley), Mu; Frances Davis (Bradley), Nu; Fanny Hunter (Taylor), Xi; Phoebe Laing (Moseley) and Leta Coleman (Hosch), Omicron; Lucile Flournoy (Truitt), Pi; Eva Mosher (Brown), Rho; Carrie Kyle (Baldwin), Alpha Alumnae; Isabel Walker, Iota Alumnae; Mary Simpson (Chenault), Lynchburg Alumnae. Kappa and the month-old Sigma were unrepresented. Many members sent greetings, as did Delta Delta Delta and Alpha Phi fraternities.



THE SIXTH NATIONAL CONVENTION, OLD POINT COMFORT, VIRGINIA, 1912



Convention greeted three new chapters, Omicron, Pi and Rho. Since Sigma, so recently installed in May, was not represented, the banquet paid tribute to the new Kansas chapter with a toast. However, the attempt to reinstall Iota chapter was reported unsuccessful because of the hostility of the Richmond College president toward fraternities. A large number of petitions from secondary schools and seminaries had been rejected since the Galveston convention, but one formal petition from a ranking college was announced. Twelve years in advance of fulfillment, but envisioned along the right lines, was Bruce Houston Davis' report-prediction that the time was fast approaching when the fraternity should be divided into districts.

Introduced was the long surviving convention custom of model initiation, aimed at insuring a uniform initiation ceremony. The first Grand Chapter initiate, as the candidates were called for twenty-nine years thereafter, was Edna Cannady (Gibson), recommended by Mu. "After the solemn ritual," the *Newport News Daily Press* said, "the convention adjourned to the pier and spent the remainder of the evening in singing Zeta Tau Alpha songs."

Legislation enacted provided for the creation of the brand-new office of Traveling Secretary,<sup>8</sup> the institution of the Scholarship Endowment Fund with a National Charity Day to contribute toward its maintenance, and a Themis Endowment Fund.<sup>9</sup>

It was stipulated that Fetting was to manufacture only the regulation (medium) sized badge,<sup>10</sup> and that the official jeweler was to submit designs for patroness and alumnae rings to Grand Chapter. Committees were appointed to add the dove and olive branch to the charter, and to draft a secret motto. An official explanation of the banner was authorized. Cards announcing installations were to be sent by Grand Chapter, and each chapter was to have a Pledge Book. Revision of the constitution and ritual<sup>11</sup> was authorized. They were to be printed separately for the first time.

Official robes were adopted and placed under the supervision of Dr. Hopkins who, it transpired, later made those robes after "first securing a pattern out of a Greek book." Silver, rather than gold, was chosen for the pledge pins, and each chapter was given the privilege of deciding its own initiation fee. A form for a Founders' Day program was voted. Each college chapter was required to furnish its alumnae with a full report once a year. The establishment of alumnae chapters was urged, as was also the printing of alumnae charters. It was decided to return to annual examinations, but the rule allowing individual chapter flowers was rescinded. The start of an esoteric publication was heralded when convention authorized a secret bulletin to be issued twice a year by Grand Chapter.

Amalgamation with Delta Zeta was officially dropped. Convention was elated when the Treasurer reported the greatly improved strength and health of the official purse.



Rose Nelson Hughes,  
*Lambda-Delta*. First National  
Inspector (1912-1913), from  
a 1912 photograph.

Grand officers elected were: President, Dr. May Agness Hopkins; Vice-President, Helen Baker; Secretary, Clair Woodruff (Bugg); Treasurer and Business Manager, Mary L. Patrick; Editor, Margaret Levy (Feuille), [exchange editor, Mary Hardin (McCown)]<sup>12</sup>; Historian, Bruce Houston Davis; Traveling Inspector, Rose Nelson Hughes.

The social picture epitomized graceful formality and dignity. Zetas in pretty party dresses waltzed and two-stepped at the Thursday evening's reception-dance at which "gold lace and uniforms from Fortress Monroe were much in evidence." This was "the only social function for which beautiful invitations [had] been issued to outsiders." Tuesday evening's informal reception was followed by a launch party the next night.

History repeated itself and an old friend was remembered when H. H. Hunt, of Farmville, who took the first pictures of Alpha chapter in 1899 (and who was often in those pictures himself), came to Old Point Comfort to take the official picture. Hats in 1912 were of enormous size that almost hid the wearer and large floppy Panamas were favorites. Hatpins, jewelled and plain, were long, sharp weapons needed to anchor them to heavy coiffures of long hair.

### The Banquet

#### Menu

|                             |                                    |                   |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Crab Flake Cocktail         |                                    | Bouillon in Cup   |
| Radishes                    | Pinmoney Pickles                   | Salted Nuts       |
| Broiled Chesapeake Bluefish |                                    | Butter Sauce      |
| Sliced Cucumbers            |                                    | Saratoga Potatoes |
|                             | Spring Lamb Chops with French Peas |                   |
| Breast of Squab             |                                    | Guinea with Bacon |
|                             | Asparagus, Hollandaise             |                   |
|                             | Salads en Surprise                 |                   |
|                             | Ice Cream with Fresh Strawberries  |                   |
| Macaroons                   | Lady Fingers                       | Petits Fours      |
|                             | Coffee                             |                   |

"With such a menu as a foundation, the palm garden of the Chamberlain and the moonlight on Hampton-Roads as the background, is there any wonder that this was one of the most marvelous banquets in the history of Zeta Tau Alpha conventions?" the 1912 convention issue of *Themis* rhapsodized. "In the midst of soft lights, almost a hundred Zetas seated themselves in groups of four,

in front of a long table behind which sat Grand Chapter, the Founders, our first Grand President, and the toastmistress."

Cornelia Magill (Whittet), Delta, was the toastmistress of that formal banquet the final night. The gray leather programs announced the following toasts:

|                                |                       |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| To Our Founders .....          | Margaret Levy         |
| The Other Greeks .....         | Janie Simpson, Delta  |
| The Oleander City .....        | Fanny Hunter, Xi      |
| The Old Dominion .....         | Leta Coleman, Omicron |
| The National Panhellenic ..... | Lucile Flournoy, Pi   |
| Auf Wiedersehen .....          | Isabel Walker         |

"The surprise of the evening came, however, when Sister Magill arose and gracefully presented to Dr. Hopkins the gift of the convention, a silver loving cup."

Leaving Old Point Comfort the next day on the steamer *Pocahontas*, the adjourned convention made the trip up the James River to Richmond, with stops at Brandon, Westover and Jamestown, thus enjoying "another day together." At Richmond they said "*au revoir*" and the convention became a delightful memory." The location of the next convention was left open.

### Grand Chapter Meeting (Jellico, Tennessee—1913)

The second decade saw the beginning of Grand Chapter meetings held between convention years, and not as a preliminary to convention itself. The home of Bruce Houston Davis, in Jellico, Tennessee, was the setting for the first official one of this nature, held September 1-5, 1913.

The principal business was the filling of two Grand Chapter offices, following the resignations of the Inspector and Editor. Gladys Ayland (Glade), Mu, was chosen for the post of Inspector, Mary Wyatt Galbraith, Zeta, became the new Editor and Rose Nelson (Hughes), the resigned Inspector, accepted the *alumnæ* officer's duties.

Postponement of the convention scheduled for 1914 until California's Exposition year of 1915 was discussed. High on the agenda was the desirability of giving *alumnæ* chapters some definite work to do for the fraternity. Several appointments for specific phases were approved. Soon after, Rose Hughes sent letters outlining that work to the various *alumnæ* chapters. Current fraternity problems discussed included revision of the constitution and by-laws, which always seemed to be under consideration. Reflective of the current agitation over high school groups was the decision that "after January, 1915, Zeta Tau Alpha shall bid no girl who has belonged to a high school fraternity."

Officers present were: President, Dr. May Agness Hopkins; Vice-President,





THE SEVENTH NATIONAL CONVENTION, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, 1915

Helen Baker; Secretary, Clair Woodruff Bugg; Treasurer and Business Manager, Mary L. Patrick; Historian, Bruce Houston Davis.

Teas, picnics, a reception and a musicale gave the visitors a delightful social time. "The folk of Jellico . . . gathered to do them honor" and the little Tennessee town was most hospitable to Mrs. Davis' guests.

### Seventh National Convention

After consideration at the Jellico meeting, it comes as no surprise that three years elapsed before the seventh national convention was held "by the sparkling waters of the Pacific," in the year of the Panama-Pacific Exposition. Expediency and the need of the convention fund for another year of building for the trip west, plus the lure of the Exposition, were all determining factors. Held July 7-13, 1915, at the Hotel Virginia in Long Beach, California, Xi chapter did a memorable hostessing job in the best California tradition.

Intensive, rather than extensive, growth was the keynote of the meeting which felt that it accomplished much, for while "preserving the splendid traditions of our Founders, they yet established new customs and instituted new rulings worthy of becoming traditional."

Following the pattern of previous conventions, an open meeting started the program. Dr. Hopkins' address of welcome was on "The Place of the Fraternity in Each Member's Life," Mrs. Thomas Stowell, senior patroness of Xi, spoke on "The Fraternity." A reception followed the musical selections presented by Pauline Fredenburg (Bathrick) and Norma Rockhold Robbins.

Xi's welcome was extended at the first business meeting by Alice Gill (Benton), and Dr. Hopkins discoursed on "How We are To Seek The Noblest." Grand officers present were: President, Dr. Hopkins; Vice-President, Helen Baker; Secretary, Clair Woodruff Bugg; Treasurer, Mary Patrick; Editor, Mary Wyatt Galbraith; Inspector, Gladys Ayland Glade.

Delegates and other visitors listed were: Beta, Dell O'Neal (Hart); Delta, Julia Coe (Rose) and Carrie Lewis (James); Epsilon, Goodwin Tipton (Cargile) and Zella Bryan (de Barard); Zeta, Leo Griffin (Spafford), Helen Chevannes (Hunter), Grace Rogers (Gardner); Theta, Edith Baker (Helmick); Kappa, Pansy Lawhon (Swearingen), Fern Wueste (Ennis), Celeste Brown (Gough); Lambda, Frances Gillett (David), Ruth Percy (Berrey); Mu, Carol Tabor (McCann), Louise Foster, Elsie Dalton (McGee), Mabel Wadlow (Willard), Julia Pierce (Blain); Nu, Katrina Brown (James), Lessie Reynolds (Hammack); Xi, Bertha Bond (Johnson), Ethelynne Smith, Camille Moore (Wade), Ruby Poggi (Decius), Mary Chaffee (Riggins), Gladys Kalliwoda (White), Mildred Snowden (Smith), Maude Funk (Thurston); Omicron, no delegate; Rho, Esther Curry; Sigma, Neva Dennison; Tau, Louise Bradford (Dillavou), Bessie Fuller; Upsilon, Kathryn Sweetser (Schneider), Lillian Watson (Whitney), Rivera Boyd,

Nell Long (Worth), Eleanor Jackson; El Paso Alumnæ, Violet Aitken (Locke), Elsinor Shelton, Margaret Levy (Feuille), Mona Frank (Strain), Milda Connolly (Smith), Mabel O'Connor (Lipscomb); Los Angeles Alumnæ, Mary Poggi (Richley), Eva Summers (Schauer), Mildred Wheeler (Miles), Maida Wellborn (Roether), Alice Gill (Benton), Ethel Underwood (Campbell), Lois Shidler (Griffith), Lorilla Brentner (Chaffee), Sue Carpenter (Earl), Carolyn Wilcutt, Helenita Lieberg; Millikin Alumnæ, Verl Freyburger (Smurthwaite), Ferne



GRAND CHAPTER AT THE 1915 CONVENTION. Left to right are Helen Baker, Clair Woodruff (Bugg), Gladys Ayland (Glade), Dr. Hopkins, Mary Wyatt Galbraith, Mary Patrick.

Parr (Wilkin); San Antonio Alumnæ, Ruth Newell Edenborough (Maverick); Little Rock Alumnæ, Agnes Robinson (Herd).

The legislative program was long and ambitious. Approved constitutional amendments and general recommendations included a change from biennial to triennial conventions, thus automatically extending all grand offices to a period of three, instead of two years. The Grand President was given the power to call Grand Chapter meetings. Annual fraternity examinations (to be given at the time of inspection) were placed in the office of the Vice-President, who was given complete charge of alumnæ work for the first time. April 1 was adopted as National Day. Official fines were placed and the convention fund



was strengthened by a designated portion of each initiation fee. Annual dues for college and alumnæ chapter members were fixed at \$2.50, with \$1.50 credited to the *Themis* fund and \$1.00 to the general fund. The initiation fee was raised from \$10 to \$12, but that sum entitled the initiate to *Themis* for one year, plus two years after leaving college.

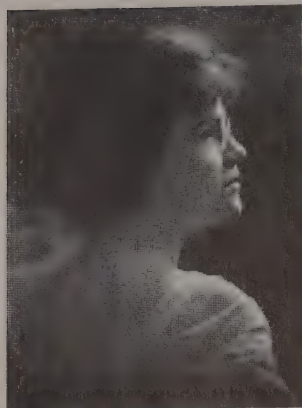
The alumnæ honor ring was adopted at this convention, and a chapter guard for the badge was authorized. The use of more than two kinds of stones in a pin was prohibited. The appearance of a badge mounted with a collection of different stones was the reason for that ruling. The badge contract was again awarded to Fetting and Company. A fraternity calendar and a *Code of Ethics* were adopted. It was decided to publish the directory in book form, independent of *Themis* (in which it had previously been printed), the sale to college members being compulsory. In order to publish as good a magazine as possible, the subscription price of *Themis* was raised. The Editor's file was to be bound. Hereafter, it was stipulated, the cost of each volume must come within the receipts of the year.<sup>13</sup> Julia Pierce (Blain), Mu, was appointed official banner maker. A court of appeals, to settle chapter difficulties, was created.

One charter was granted, to the C.I.C. Club at the University of Pittsburgh. Eleven petitions had been rejected since the previous convention. Rho's ritual service for alumnæ groups, written by Ethel Kingman, was adopted and alumnæ groups were granted the use of ritualistic equipment. Eleven active alumnæ chapters were reported, nine of which had been organized since the last convention. The Founders' Day service frequently mentioned in previous convention minutes apparently still remained a hope, as did the matter of adding the dove and olive branch to the charter. But this conclave appointed committees to submit a service and take care of the charter addition, as well as to take charge of the newly authorized information blanks. October 14 was selected as the official date for Founders' Day. In 1915 the incorrect date of October 25 was still listed as the date of Zeta's founding, the correction not being made until some years later. A secret motto was rejected. Millikin Alumnæ announced that they were working on a new songbook. A revised membership clause specified that Zeta Tau Alphas were eligible only to honorary and professional fraternities—no others.

When this meeting adopted the honor ring which was to become a secure tradition, the first awards were announced and the future method of conferring the rings was decided upon. Vyrna Welch, recommended by Tau, and Myra Shaw (Rogers), recommended by Xi, were the Grand Chapter initiates.

Many members sent greetings, as did Alpha Phi fraternity. Flowers came from Alpha Chi Omega, Pi Beta Phi and Alpha Omicron Pi.

Grand officers elected were: President, Dr. Hopkins; Vice-President, Fanny



Ruth Newell Edenborough  
(Maverick)



Fanny Hunter Taylor



Agatha Boyd Adams

Hunter (Taylor); Secretary, Clair Woodruff Bugg; Treasurer, Mary L. Patrick; Inspector, Gladys Ayland Glade; Editor, Agatha Boyd (Adams); Historian, Ruth Edenborough (Maverick).

The next convention was planned for 1918, in Asheville, North Carolina.

When they were not in business sessions, "the highbrows of Boston, the bluebloods from Virginia, the delightful little southern girls with their charmin' accents, and the wild and woolly westerners" played with as much energy as they worked. Typically Californian in flavor was the plunge party, on Wednesday, July 7, which started off with a bathing parade led by Dr. Hopkins, who won a prize for military bearing. Mildred Snowden (Smith), who was to swim at later conventions, was voted the most graceful in appearance. Ethelynn Smith was the most picturesque. The bathing beauties of later decades had not yet been established as an institution in 1915, but the plunge party and bathing parade were not without their forerunner aspects.

After that aquatic gambol, "figures breathlessly whirled through the measures of the aeroplane on the ballroom floor" at the dance held in the hotel. The boating party the next evening enjoyed a sumptuous supper served on board. A reception and dance followed the next night, while Saturday evening was given over to the convention musicale and more dancing.

Stunt Night, which was to be a feature of many ensuing conventions, made its successful début at this time. Hilarious skits "took-off" some of the proposed convention measures. Participating were Tau, Boston Alumnæ, Kappa, Mu, Nu, Epsilon, Xi and Los Angeles Alumnæ.

Far from the land where white violets grow, the Californians substituted dark blue cornflowers with striking effect at the formal banquet held Tuesday night. The fraternity's color note was carried out by a profusion of gray and

blue tulle. Souvenir pins from Fetting and Company, and hatpins from the T. V. Allen Company were the favors. Ethelynne Smith, introduced by Bertha Bond (Johnson), was the toastmistress. The program of toasts was:

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| The Wearers of the Shield .....              | Maida Wellborn, Xi   |
| The Crown .....                              | Pansy Lawhon, Kappa  |
| The Shield .....                             | Gladys Ayland        |
| Zeta Tau Alpha Seek the Noblest .....        | Nell Long, Upsilon   |
| The Jewels .....                             | Mary Galbraith       |
| Themis .....                                 | Louise Bradford, Tau |
| The Last Two Links in the Mystic Chain ..... | May Agness Hopkins   |

In conclusion, Louise Bradford (Dillavou) and Verl Freyburger (Smurthwaite), Tau, accompanied by Myra Shaw (Rogers), sang a group of new fraternity songs.

This was the last convention to be held before war hit the United States in 1917. And it was the last one for many years that would be completely free from past or pending war effects.

### Grand Chapter Meeting (Dallas, Texas—1917)

Although the United States was then at war, a Grand Chapter meeting preparatory to the scheduled and still planned 1918 convention was held June 18-25, 1917, in Dallas, Texas, where the President lived. Changed was the personnel elected at the 1915 convention. Gladys Ayland (Glade), who resigned from the Inspectorship, had been appointed Historian, while Julia Coe (Rose), Delta, succeeded her as the traveling representative.

At the meeting were Dr. Hopkins, President; Fanny Hunter (Taylor), Vice-President; Clair Woodruff (Bugg), Secretary; Mary L. Patrick, Treasurer; Gladys Ayland (Glade), Historian, and Julia Coe (Rose), Inspector. The Editor, Agatha Boyd (Adams), was absent.

Again constitutional amendments were discussed, and several recommendations were agreed upon for presentation at the national convention. The office of keeper of pins, with accompanying rules and regulations for badges, was recommended. Selection of the Grand President to act as the official representative at all inter-fraternity affairs was important, because prior to this there had been no specific provision designating the President as the official Panhellenic Conference delegate, except by convention appointment or election.

The duties of the Inspector were definitely worded. Problems connected with *Themis*, its editorial status, publishing, *et cetera*, were taken up and an action decided upon.<sup>14</sup> The acquisition of the fraternity's first installation trunk was authorized. It was later secured by Dr. Hopkins. That first one has had numerous successors, but since that date, there has always been a well-filled trunk to travel



to and from conventions and installations. The People's State Bank, in Farmville, Virginia, was given the fraternity account.

Expressing the fraternity's deep sorrow and loss, the group drew up appropriate resolutions upon the passing of Mary Wyatt Galbraith who, because of her health, had declined reelection as Editor at the 1915 convention.

The social features included a reception at the hotel, an afternoon party at the Country Club, and other informal gatherings.

### Grand Chapter Meeting (Chicago, Illinois—1918)

A year after the Dallas Grand Chapter meeting, World War I was at its height. The convention which was to have been held in 1918 was an impossibility. Virtually substituting for it was the next Grand Chapter meeting held July 2-7, 1918, at the Del Prado Hotel, in Chicago, Illinois.

Conforming to and meeting the exigencies of wartime, naturally it was different in every way, and its precedent was to prove valuable too few years later when another holocaust broke loose to tear at the lives and happiness of the peoples of the world.

By unanimous chapter vote, convention had been postponed. The President was even then preparing for medical duty in France. *Conservation* was the word-of-the-moment and all personal programs centered on war work and allied interests. But the work of the fraternity had to go on, too. In this emergency it was decided to proceed as usual, collect the long lists of recommendations normally destined for convention, assemble them, and present them to the chapters for their consideration. However, instead of voting through their representatives at convention, their decisions on each measure were sent to Grand Chapter.

Thus armed with the votes representing the views and wishes of the organization, a little band of four women met to carry on, in so far as it was possible, the work of a national convention. For this period they were given the "power to act," but keenly sensible of the responsibilities that trust entailed, they conscientiously felt that "we did not consider this to mean any powers outside those regularly vested in us, except in a few cases of necessity, and incorporating in the constitution those amendments which carried by your vote. We did not feel that we had been given the power to change the pledge pin or make any innovations." The "few cases of necessity" referred to petition blanks, a new charter design and the inclusion of a banner (to be purchased by the new chapter) in the installation trunk.

Every motion affecting the constitution and by-laws was brought before the next convention (1919) for formal and final ratification. Although the war emergency had, through chapter vote and consent, vested Grand Chapter with

the power to act, they did not interpret that "as being decisive or inclusive of legislative powers." Accordingly, every recommendation from this and the 1917 Dallas Grand Chapter meeting was considered only tentative and unofficial until ratified by convention. That was a very important point at that juncture, and it was emphasized by the participants in later years. Those trusted with unusual powers in an unusual situation must guard them carefully in the light of precedent and responsibility.



Christine Bertholas Olsen



Julia Coe Rose

In the absence of Dr. Hopkins, the Vice-President, Fanny Hunter (Taylor), took over the duties of the President. The rest of the little group were Mary Patrick, Treasurer; Gladys Ayland (Glade), Historian, and the Editor, Christine Bertholas (Olsen).

A mass of work was tackled. Constitutional amendments in the briefest résumé, accepted by Grand Chapter and the college chapters through this meeting, included an exact definition of the legislative and executive bodies of the fraternity (the convention and Grand Chapter, respectively), with a clear setting forth of the powers and duties of each, and the members comprising each group. Both an official and an alternate delegate were now required at conventions. Greek names in their proper sequence were to be used in naming each new chapter. The disposition of the effects of inactive chapters was decided upon, as was the addition of final and explanatory statements in cases of expulsion. A committee, composed of Mary Patrick, chairman, assisted by Julia Coe (Rose) and Christine Bertholas (Olsen), was named to revise the constitution and by-laws according to correct parliamentary form for submission to the next convention.

Accepted was the new form of *alumnæ* organization outlined by Fanny

Hunter Taylor, which called for districts and the selection of district alumnæ secretaries working under the direction of the Vice-President. Since the Vice-President's work was increased by the addition of the President's duties, she was given the privilege of appointing an Alumnæ Secretary to take charge of this work. Helen Kalliwoda (Goodwin) became the appointee.

Tau Alumnæ chapter, under the direction of Verl Freyburger (Smurthwaite), was given charge of the secret publication (then called the SL) to be edited monthly by Julia Coe (Rose), the Inspector.

A charter was granted to the petitioning group at Iowa Wesleyan College. Further motions called for the alteration of the inspection blanks. Also, in the future, Zeta Tau Alpha, the national organization, was to be the hostess at conventions. This meant that costs of official addresses, receptions, et cetera, were hereafter to be borne by the national treasury, and not by any one chapter or group of chapters as had been done previously. Plans called for the use of the coat-of-arms in the initiation service, replacing the small shield and symbols on the charter with the official coat-of-arms. A loan fund contribution was required from each chapter on April 1, while \$2.50 of the initiation fee was allowed to serve as that year's Grand Chapter dues for the initiate. The *Sorority Hand Books* regularly used then were to be purchased for all grand officers and new chapters. Clair Bugg became chairman of the committee to draft the as-yet-unwritten fraternity *Code of Ethics*. A white Bible was to be given to all new chapters. Ethel Rollins (Harrison) received the appointment of official banner maker. Soon after this meeting, the Boston Alumnæ chapter was appointed official robe maker, a service that group was to perform for many years.

The first mention of the possibility of remunerated officers came at this time in the suggestion that the Inspector be given a salary, but "upon careful investigation of the finances of the fraternity it was found that there were not sufficient funds to pay an Inspector any sum that would make any difference to one fitted to do the work." Thus the matter ended for the time being.

The four at this meeting did nothing but work. An informal luncheon to which several city alumnæ were invited was their nearest approach to taking time off.

As war times engulfed the land, Dr. Hopkins gave up her private medical practice and offered her services to her country. Her call came shortly before the 1918 meeting, preventing her attendance. But she sent suggestions and recommendations. Her resignation, tendered at the meeting, was not accepted. Instead she was voted a leave of absence.

The meeting was over but the work was not. A crucial year and a heavy volume of post-meeting work stretched ahead as the officers left for their respective homes and the task of holding together a fraternity in unpredictable war times.



### Supplementary Notes

1. Covering the 1912-1914 period, the *History of Delta Zeta* said that "it had been suggested by Mrs. Ida Shaw Martin that it would be a practical way of extension for Zeta Tau Alpha and Delta Zeta to join forces, as neither fraternity had chapters where the other had any. This matter was taken up, but no agreement upon a consolidation was made, Delta Zeta not being willing to make the required sacrifice of their name; although realizing the very great advantage this consolidation would be with a fraternity of such importance and influence."

Sent in 1910, the files revealed that the first letter was written by Zeta Tau Alpha's President. Further letters came from Delta Zeta in 1913. Dr. Hopkins expressed the belief that if amalgamation was to be considered, the situation presenting itself might be almost ideal. Zeta Tau Alpha's chapters were nearly all in the South, while most of Delta Zeta's were in the North. On only one campus did they both have chapters. The interesting correspondence reveals that Zeta Tau Alpha suggested combining the names of the two organizations.

2. The incorrect founding date was in use at that time.
3. With a convention whose every move was enthusiastically reported by a favorable press, it is not surprising that some of the official business leaked out. Said the *Galveston Tribune*:

"When the nominating committee (Jeanette McMurray, Helen Parker and Zoie Nesbit) announced their selection of candidates for . . . grand officers . . . there was considerable discussion about the position of Grand President. Miss May Agness Hopkins, of Galveston, and then present officer, desiring to allow some other delegate to hold the position, and the other nominee, Miss Grace Jordan, of Forrest City, Arkansas, also desiring to dodge the issue, it was finally decided . . . with Miss Hopkins as Grand President and Miss Jordan as Grand Vice-President. The rest of the candidates were elected by unanimous vote."

4. *Themis* made no mention of it but the *Galveston Tribune* said that "the tenth and last toast was what was termed the 'Grand Secret,' as it did not materialize, nor was it ascertained who delivered the response." With the pride not unknown to that state even at that date, the paper also modestly declared that "with the characteristic originality of a Texas girl, Miss Levy brought forth rounds of applause as her witty sallies greeted" the delegates' responses.
5. On June 23, 1912, the first advance notice of convention appeared in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* from which, in earlier years, the first account of the chartering of Zeta Tau Alpha was clipped.
6. The hotel was later destroyed by fire but was rebuilt.
7. Beta's records were pronounced perfect and the chapter received special attention at this convention. Beta's record in the fraternity was always far above the average.
8. The terms Visiting Delegate and Inspector are here used interchangeably.
9. This fund was to be composed of \$25 life subscriptions but none was entered until 1915, according to Mary Patrick.
10. The President's pin was used as a model for the regulation sized badge authorized as official at this convention. The jeweler knew this as the "dress-suit size."
11. "Grand Chapter," Mary Patrick remembered, "sat up nights making plans for the revision that was accepted. A number of things were added, largely written by Margaret Levy (Feuille). Some of these were authorized to be done after convention. This included Clair Bugg's complete revision and correction of Greek names, which

required many months of work. Discrepancies in the selection of Greek terms had been generally discussed and recognized, and authority for correction was given at this time. During the summer, Clair Bugg also compiled and had printed the new constitution and rituals."

12. Not a member of Grand Chapter, although election at convention gave rise to that supposition.
13. Until this time it was understood that any deficit would be made up from the general fund.
14. A new Editor, Christine Bertholas (Olsen), Upsilon, was appointed soon after this.

## Decade Development

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### *Organization and Government*

THE SECOND decade dawned with Grand Chapter's<sup>1</sup> personnel consisting of a President, Vice-President, Editor, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian and Business Manager. This roster, however, was short-lived, for the Treasurer resigned in 1908, the Business Manager succeeded her, and the offices were automatically combined. The 1910 convention returned the vice-presidency and the editorship to separate offices, making a total of six officers serving for that biennium. The addition of the newly created office of Visiting Delegate (or Inspector<sup>2</sup>) in 1912 brought Grand Chapter's number to seven, and that number carried through the decade.

Legislative and executive powers remained virtually the same, with the national convention constituting "the supreme ruling power" from 1903 on. Grand Chapter was the executive body, performing such functions between conventions as were prescribed for it by the constitution and by-laws. To it fell the duty of seeing that convention legislation was carried out.

But a major change in the frequency of conventions took place in this decade. Actually, from this period dates the flexible program that was to permit adjustments and occasional deviations through the years when circumstances and conditions made an alteration of dates expedient, if not mandatory. From this point on, the dates and the years elapsing between meetings constitute a record that is in itself a mirror, sometimes of the times, but always of the fraternity.

Conventions, constitutionally biennial until 1915, actually became triennial in practice following the 1912 meeting. On April 30, 1914, the President notified the chapters that the meeting scheduled for that year had been postponed until 1915 "for the following reasons:

First, the convention fund is not sufficient to maintain a convention this year. This shortness of funds has been brought about by the fact that in many chapters they have sophomore pledging and thus we have received just half the initiation fees that we received in former years . . . secondly, the chapters who were to act as hostesses have had a hard year. And while they were ready to go ahead and . . . have convention, yet under the circumstances it was thought best not to ask them. This at first may seem very disappointing . . . but when you consider the advantages of going to the Coast, I am sure all will agree that the action has been a wise one."





May Agness Hopkins  
*Grand President*



Mary Louise Patrick  
*Grand Treasurer*



Clair Woodruff Bugg  
*Grand Secretary*

THE SECOND DECADE'S IMPORTANT TRIUMVIRATE. Working together uninter-  
ruptedly for eleven years, these three major figures of the second decade were a bulwark of  
strength to the still-young fraternity. These are 1908 photographs.

Thus for the first time a period of three years elapsed between conventions, and a precedent was set.

Duly held in 1915, the California conclave promptly approved a change to triennial meetings. This was due partly to finances and to the belief that conventions every three years would be sufficient. The three-year plan, however, was not destined to be carried out with regularity. First the scheduled 1918 convention was postponed because of World War I, which was then at its height, and instead, a Grand Chapter meeting, invested with "power to act" was held.

This war-dictated solution—without precedent—which was worked out for this crucial time not only solved the 1918 problem, but it later assumed even greater importance when, less than a quarter of a century later, during another world war, it served as a precedent when a similar situation arose.

From 1903 to 1912 the voting personnel of convention consisted of Grand Chapter and "delegates, two each from each chapter." But in 1915 the voting body was described as being composed of the "members of Grand Chapter and delegates, two each (an official and an alternate delegate being required) from each active and alumnae chapter." At no time was a delegate allowed to vote if her chapter was in arrears.

Looking back over the convention committees listed from the date of founding: In the beginning there were (1) the credentials committee, appointed by the temporary chairman; (2) the distribution (seating) committee; (3) constitution and by-laws committee; (4) chapters and charters committee, (5) audit and finance committee, the last four being appointed by the permanent chairman, the President. In the second constitution the first five committees were retained and two others, the resolutions committee and the nominating committee, were added, bringing the total to seven committees. In 1912 the chapters and charters committee was dropped.

An advance in organizational functioning was registered during this period when the custom of holding Grand Chapter meetings between the years of convention, and not as a preliminary to convention itself, was inaugurated. Up to this time Grand Chapter had conducted the fraternity's business almost entirely by correspondence. Records show that the first such meeting was held in 1913<sup>3</sup> and not until 1915 was the President given the power to call meetings of that body. After that, however, they became an established practice and part and parcel of governmental procedure. Thus, the decade achieved another "first."

Charter grants were still conferred by Grand Chapter alone.<sup>4</sup> And that procedure remained a point of great importance. Through the saga of the era runs the thread of conviction that a different procedure, with chapter vote involved, might surely have ground the wheels of extension to a stop. The

reason? Their answer: One ultra-conservative, highly satisfied unit on the still small chapter roll.

Important developments also were noted in alumnæ organization. The 1910<sup>5</sup> convention authorized the appointment of an Alumnæ Secretary,<sup>6</sup> and impetus was given to the formation and encouragement of alumnæ chapters. The 1913 Grand Chapter meeting was keenly in favor of "giving alumnæ chapters some definite work to do for the fraternity," and that year assignments were made accordingly. Then the 1915 convention placed alumnæ work in the hands of the Vice-President for the first time.

The word *demit* became a permanent part of the fraternity's functioning as well as its official language when the fifth national convention made a demit necessary before a member could officially transfer from one chapter to another.

### *Expansion and Development*

In this decade, expansion entered an era in which the terms "pre-war" and "during the war" not only characterized definite periods and had definite meaning, but became woven into the language. Going along in the comparative quiet and normality of the years prior to 1917 (the last normal ones for a long time), Zeta Tau Alpha's growth was steady and satisfactory although even the early leaders designated it as "slow."

When there were no installations between 1907 to 1908, this brief cessation was viewed with concern by some of the chapters. They became vocal about it.

The one-year extension lull was soon broken, however, for in March, 1909, the first chapter in the state of Missouri was established at Drury College. While this looked like a step north, Mu was never considered to be Zeta's first northern chapter. The fact that the state had both pro-Union and pro-Confederate sympathies during the War Between the States was a frequently stated factor in this evaluation. A year later, Nu chapter at the University of Alabama, and Xi, at the University of Southern California, were installed in April, 1910. These three chapters were announced at the 1910 convention when two rejections were reported and the petition from a group at Brenau College was presented.

That convention, however, was increasingly extension-minded. Indicative of this, the first mention of an extension committee appeared on the records when a motion was passed at Galveston "that an extension committee be formed, composed of one member from each chapter, with our President to be head of the committee." The President, however, appointed Helen Baker, Iota, as chairman of this committee whose investigational findings were to be reported to Grand Chapter. Final action and chapter grants were in Grand Chapter's hands, of course.



Before the Old Point Comfort convention there were four additions to the chapter roll. The first two, located in the South, were Omicron at Brenau College, in January, 1911; and Pi at Georgia Wesleyan College, in May, 1911. Highly significant and much-welcomed was Rho chapter, at Boston University, for Rho was considered to be the first northern chapter.<sup>7</sup> Boston's installation date was February 22, 1912. Kansas next joined the ranks when Sigma chapter was installed at Baker University the following May.

The four new chapters were not to be credited to the extension committee, though. "While extension has been successful," the chairman reported, "the new chapters were secured mainly through the efforts of our Grand President." The chapters, it transpired, while eager for expansion in 1908, did not cooperate in appointing members to the 1910 authorized committee, nor did they give active assistance. Human nature ran true to form.

Convention did not continue the committee but Helen Baker was elected Vice-President and one of the duties attached to that office was to act as "chairman of the extension department." If this seemed to imply conflict with the directional powers of the President, the unchanged status of the latter's jurisdiction was made plain in the constitution following that meeting. While provision was made for someone else to carry on investigational activity, actual direction of extension never left the office of the Grand President. "To one fell preliminary investigations, to the other general oversight, direction and administration." Clarity on that point was considered very important.

Three chapters were added before the 1915 California conclave: Tau, at James Millikin University, in October, 1912; Upsilon, at the University of California, in May, 1916, and Phi, at Duke University (then Trinity College), in June, 1915. At that convention, the President reported that "eleven petitions . . . [have been] turned down," adding that "the placing of chapters had been guarded."

Then came the dislocations of World War I, necessitating a four-year, instead of a three-year, interval between conventions. "Fraternity had to be and was secondary to the concerns of the nation," yet the affairs of the organization went forward, and extension continued, with a noticeably wide geographical distribution. Chi, at the University of Pittsburgh, added in November, 1915, and Omega, established in January, 1916, at Southern Methodist University, were pre-war installations. Psi, at the University of Washington, in September, 1917; Alpha Alpha at Iowa Wesleyan College, and Alpha Beta at the University of Pennsylvania in September, 1918, were installed during the war. To Alpha Alpha went the distinction of starting the double alphabet series.

Meanwhile, changes were taking place in colleges and universities, and a new order was displacing the old. Enrollments increased enormously and so did

the number of women going to college. There were more prospective members than there were organizations to take care of them. Small chapters became large chapters. In fact, large chapters became the trend and the trend became permanent. The permanency of the increased enrollments, with the additional women registrants involved, set the stage for a coming accelerated expansion pace that was just starting as the decade ended. It was to change the whole general fraternity picture.

Before leaving it, this pre-war expansion period prior to 1917 may be summed up as follows: Born in Virginia, when the below-the-Mason-Dixon-line world was new to the women's Greek-letter system, the normal trend of Zeta's first extension was naturally in that geographical area. Watching the evolution of an organization thus far unmistakably southern, a southern leader, Bruce Houston Davis, first had the vision to realize the importance of entering the Inter-Sorority Conference (later the National Panhellenic Conference) if the fraternity was to become a growing national organization able to compete with the well-established nationals of the North who had effectively banded together in the I.S.C.

As Bruce Davis retired from office, her goal had been reached. Zeta Tau Alpha had met I.S.C.'s requirements for admittance. The fraternity's entrance came under her successor, whose factual survey of this period with its rejected petitions, expansion methods and attitudes toward procedures constitutes a valuable record:

Kappa chapter was installed in 1906, shortly before the Knoxville convention. In the interval before I became President in 1908 I had the opportunity of observing the chapters at the University of Texas, which was, of course, coeducational. I noticed particularly that the large organizations represented there had withdrawn their chapters from smaller colleges, and I not only saw the strength gained thereby, but I observed the proverbial straw which indicated the way the wind would blow. Consequently, I was heartily in favor of the recommendation to restrict our chapters to universities and larger colleges for women (which was introduced at the 1908 convention).

Up to this time . . . we were strictly southern. Our *alumnæ* lived in the South and it was in the South that we were known. After . . . we entered the National Panhellenic Conference we received a large number of petitions from the smaller colleges for women, of which there were a great many in the South. A number, if not practically all, of our first opportunities came from these colleges, but because we were a member of the National Panhellenic Conference we could not consider any of them. Our former conservatism was being made more conservative . . . for we had . . . adopted the policy of not extending at all unless a desirable chapter presented itself from a college of A rank. Many of the southern colleges did not meet this requirement and others perhaps did not appeal to us.

Our first opportunity to enter a large college after we became a member of the N.P.C. came at Drury College in Missouri. Drury, of course, was not a northern chapter, strictly speaking, for Missouri was as much southern as northern.

In surveying the country we realized that we had no *alumnæ* in the northern or eastern states, and therefore we must devise some dignified means for a northern approach. We

decided upon a policy of writing to the deans of women of the various institutions, making inquiries about possible openings. This policy occupied a brief interval, and it was neither satisfactory nor successful from our viewpoint. This experience probably determined our rigid future policy, which was one of preferred slow growth, effected only through the efforts of our own alumnae and those close friends who stood almost in the light of members. This seemed the most desirable way of securing suitable chapters.

As proof of the carrying out of this expansion policy, and of alumnae value in extension, it was not until I crossed the Mason-Dixon line and established first contact in the North that our first northern charter was granted. That was to Rho chapter. From then on we had northern alumnae. Soon other northern groups followed, and expansion in that territory came just as it had come in the South. We rejoiced over these first footholds in the North, for it meant a broader Zeta Tau Alpha and greater fulfillment of her original purpose.

Our same policy continued. After that one brief experiment of attempting to make our own approach, it was not repeated. A careful survey of the chapters as they came at that time reveals the approach being made to the national officers, not vice versa.

Since the status of the fraternity changed in this decade, and its fields of expansion were clearly defined by N.C.P., the period represented a turning-point. No longer a young group wholly on its own, but now an integral part of N.P.C., the early days of expansion were behind it, and extension after 1909 was exclusively in N.P.C.-accredited colleges and universities.

As the decade ended, the number of new chapters totalled fifteen. While the President reiterated the policy of "conservatism," the number gained could scarcely have failed to please the 1908 expansionists who saw their hopes fulfilled by 1918.

### *Publications*

THEMIS: *Themis* became a quarterly magazine in 1910 when the addition of a July issue gave Zeta Tau Alpha four issues a year instead of three. With this fourth issue the magazine also advanced to the eminence of second-class mailing rights, and a milestone was reached. Further growing up, the editorial and circulation duties were properly separated and "the editor no longer attended to the mailing and addressing."

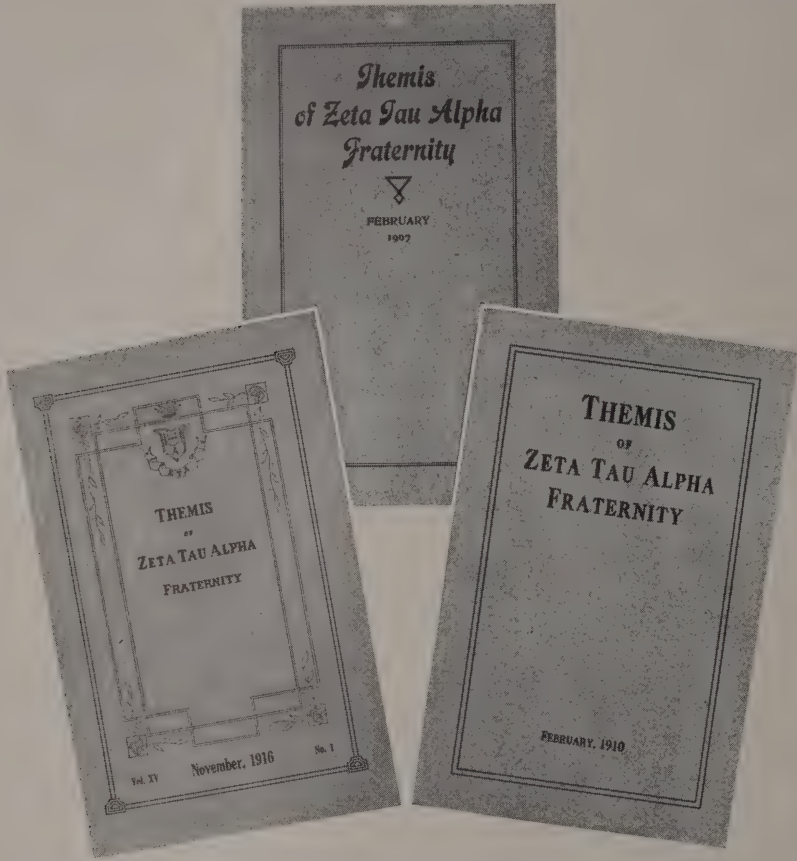
Margaret Levy (Feuille), Kappa, became the editor in 1910, with Bruce Houston Davis as an assistant. A chapter directory was added and a plan of special issues mapped out. The special issues plan became a favorite with succeeding editors. Such subjects as the Founders, Insignia, Alumnae, et cetera were featured. The first summer issue, the July, 1910 number, printed the first directory of the fraternity. Carrying out 1910 convention action, "Grand Chapter dues hereafter included a subscription to *Themis*," chapters received notices informing them when material was due, and uniformity of style in chapter letters was instituted.

"Up to the present time," said Business Manager Mary Patrick's convention report, "it has been the policy of the fraternity to make the best magazine



possible, regardless of cost.<sup>8</sup> . . . It has also been the policy of the magazine staff not to solicit advertisements from local firms."

The Editor was re-elected in 1912 (with Mrs. Davis again her assistant), but she resigned the next year and was succeeded by Mary Wyatt Galbraith, Zeta, "who gave many evidences of her wide interests. . . . It was at this period that



COVER DESIGNS OF THEMIS

our world began to widen and we heard about colleges and their customs, and about interesting things that Zetas were doing, for Zeta Tau Alphas had gone out in sufficient numbers to be heard about as physicians, missionaries, et cetera." To the staff were added Mary Hardin (McCown), Zeta, and Mabel Gildersleeve, Zeta, assisted by the Johnson City Alumnæ.

In 1915 Mary Wyatt Galbraith<sup>9</sup> was succeeded by Agatha Boyd (Adams).<sup>10</sup> Staff members were Minna Bretschneider, Rho, exchange editor, and Nan Thornton, Delta, associate editor. A new cover design appeared, and for about a year the magazine was published in Virginia, where the Editor was living.

Not satisfactory, this publishing arrangement was, among other things, the subject of action at the next Grand Chapter meeting.

By this time circulation work was assuming proportions too heavy for a Treasurer-Business Manager to handle alone—if the field were to be adequately covered. So three assistant business managers were announced. Martha McIntosh (Morrison), Tau, took charge of securing subscriptions from non-recent non-subscribers. Irene Hartzog (Wright), Omicron, solicited renewals from subscribers whose subscriptions were just expiring. Dorothy Miller (Cranston), Theta, assisted with contracts and had charge of advertisements. Successions of printed post-cards went out.

When Christine Bertholas (Olsen), Upsilon, was appointed Editor in 1917, the magazine was returned to its former publisher. She, too, made a point of feature issues, the July, 1917, Insignia number being especially valued at the time because as yet no *History* existed to coordinate and present the material on that important subject. An article in each issue dealing with a significant problem of the day was an innovation introduced. In 1918, Alice Tufts, Upsilon; Mary Poggi (Richley), Xi, and Lola Fitzpatrick, Beta, were added to the editorial staff (the last-named for a short time only).

In the experiences and problems encountered it was a trying decade in many ways, but it was one of growth. And the eagerness with which the still small membership greeted the magazine's arrival clearly indicated its tremendous importance as the principal coordinating factor in the fraternity.

By 1917, of course, the stresses and interests of war times began to be reflected in the magazine. This was accelerated in 1918. And on this note the decade closed, for the armistice ended the war in November, before the year came to a close.

**THE SECRET LETTER:** The full span of this decade's years was needed to launch Zeta Tau Alpha's secret publication. Not nearly as pre-defined in content and handling as the printed magazine, *Themis*, it took some time to get what the early days referred to as the *Secret Letter* really under way as a regularly appearing *entre-nous* informative service to the fraternity. But step by step the trial and experimentation process led to a permanent form and home for the publication, although this latter status was not achieved during this decade.

Although the 1910 convention authorized a secret publication, its inception really dates back to the 1903 convention, which approved such a publication but had no available funds for its financing. So for the next few years the nearest approach was "the Grand Chapter communications, in the form of assembled messages," which began to reach the chapters soon after that meeting. More like personal bulletins, they were received at intervals. Then at the 1908 convention Mary Patrick recommended "direct correspondence between the chapters until a secret publication can be formed." The fifth convention authorized it.

Commenting on the difficulty of tracing this first *Secret Letter*, the first *History of Zeta Tau Alpha* said:

While any records of publication during this period are very scarce and difficult to find, the *History* has been fortunate in securing the mimeographed sheets that unquestionably were part of the first of the secret letters. The date was 1911, sometime in the spring, probably April, and the communication came from the office of the Grand Secretary.

Giving the purpose and ambitions of this initial issue, the opening paragraph explains: "We are beginning a secret letter and hope for several reasons it will succeed. First of all, we feel it will bring the chapters in closer touch with Grand Chapter and let them have fuller reports of the work done by your governing board. Then we hope, in time, to work our letter up to where we shall have from each chapter a more personal report of their work than appears in *Themis*. We want it to be a letter where ideas can be exchanged, plans made and hopes realized, difficulties straightened out, questions asked and discussed."

Thus the long-desired letter was launched. It contained announcements, reports—and complaints. Some secretaries had not learned to fill out the initiation blanks correctly. Others were late in sending other forms and blanks. The decade story on that condition was never to change. But the 1911 Grand Secretary was hopeful.

Clair Bugg recommended a semi-annual secret letter a year later (1912), when she reported the number of issues sent out. "Since information and interest are correlative terms," she wrote,

It is believed that the work of Zeta Tau Alpha would be greatly advanced by means of a secret bulletin issued by Grand Chapter at least twice a year, giving a condensed report of the progress of the various chapters. In the past two years typewritten bulletins containing both letters from Grand Chapter and items of interest have been issued by the Grand Secretary.

The 1912 convention accordingly sanctioned a secret bulletin to be issued twice a year by Grand Chapter.

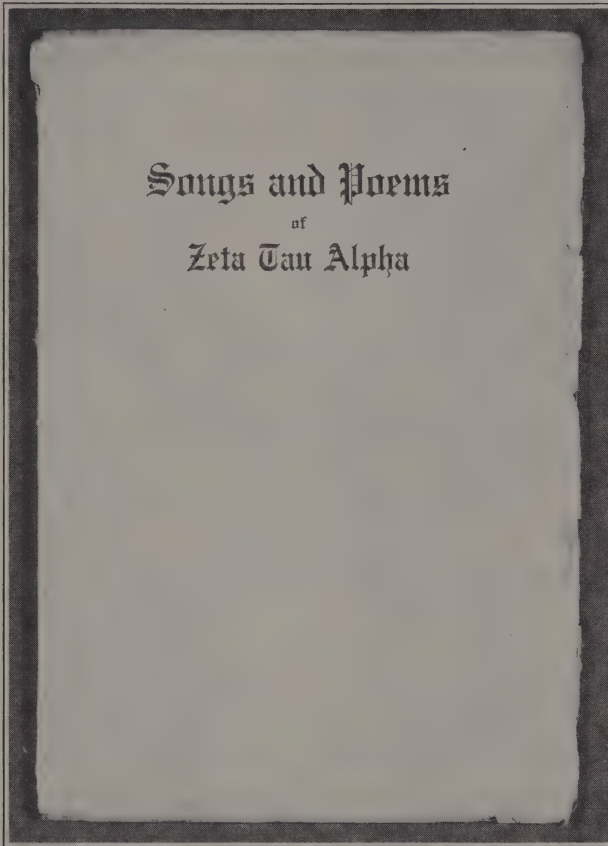
But more ambitious plans were entertained, and a different *modus operandi* had been dreamed up. When the new Alumnæ Chairman, Rose Nelson Hughes, was assigning various phases of fraternity work to the different alumnæ chapters, she wrote on July 8, 1913 that "the greatest need is for a secret publication." It was envisioned as a monthly publication, beginning the following September. Grand Chapter generously offered to purchase either a mimeographing or multigraphing machine and the project was assigned to the Atlanta Alumnæ. Said Volume I of the earlier *History*: "Various handicaps, however, prevented complete fulfillment of this undertaking."

Julia Coe (Rose), National Inspector, next took over. She issued sprightly letters in 1916-1917. In 1917 she wrote:

We circulate each month from headquarters a sort of Zeta Tau Alpha letter filled with interesting bits of news and gossip that every Zeta would so love to know and which would be of such a confidential and personal nature that it would not be published in *Themis*. You know that secret issue we've been dreaming of all these years? This is to take its place in a miniature way.



It was taking time but the hoped-for publication was slowly drawing nearer. In the meantime, Julia Coe Rose's letter was an airy and informative bulletin that must have whetted the interest of, and transmitted the spark of her own enthusiasm to, her readers.



THE FIRST SONGBOOK

By decision of the 1918 Grand Chapter meeting, the next development was the transferring of the mimeographing from "headquarters" to Tau chapter. To them Mrs. Rose sent her copy, and there Verl Freyburger (Smurthwaite) and her assistants saw to the mimeographing and mailing. That arrangement was in effect as the decade ended.

THE SONG BOOK: "In presenting this book we hope to bring to the hearts of all true members of our fraternity the loyalty and love expressed in these songs and poems of Zeta Tau Alpha," ran the foreword in Zeta Tau Alpha's first song book. Sue Burney, Epsilon, was the editor.

The 1906 convention had commissioned the Arkansas Zeta to compile a song book, and it appeared early in 1909.<sup>11</sup> The white paper-bound book contained thirty-one pages of songs, and twenty-one pages of poems which she had industriously collected. It boasted original stanzas, which, in most cases, were set to familiar tunes that ranged all the way from Hayden's stately "Creation" to the popular "Who Is Sylvia?"

Since nearly all of the music was copyrighted, none appeared in the song book. Words only were presented, but the words of many of the stanzas endured. For instance, "Epsilon's Call" to the tune of "Bugle Call" became Zeta's later-day "Bugle Call."

Appreciation of a leader's devoted and brilliant service was voiced in the dedication, which read:

To Bruce Houston Davis, the woman who gives her life's best efforts to Zeta Tau Alpha, this volume is affectionately dedicated.

The business manager, Bertha Cruse (Gardner), Beta, had charge of selling the books.

Although no other song book appeared in this decade, activity toward another one with words and music was started. But it was not carried to fulfillment before 1918 ended.

**DIRECTORIES:** The recent national convention impressed on us a distressing need . . . of which we have long been cognizant: the want of communication between active chapters and their alumnae, and between the alumnae themselves. In fact, many . . . plans for progress have been in a measure defeated because of inability to locate and keep in touch with various Zeta Tau Alphas who have gone out into post-college existence, whether domestic or professional. To insure cooperation from the alumnae, many of whom have been the strongest and most resourceful of active members, rendered inert, not by choice but by the separation from the field of work and of knowledge of the exigencies of chapter life; to arouse the interest of the active chapter in the fraternity as a national body, largely represented to the world by its alumnae and judged to a certain extent by their interest in their fraternity; this is the ideal toward which we are working.

Consequently, as one means of bridging the chasm, we are inaugurating the summer editions of *Themis* by making the first summer issue a directory . . . I would make a personal appeal, however, . . . for the personal cooperation of each member . . . in endeavoring to put into our hands a complete catalogue of the membership. . . . We must remember that it is to be one of the first stepping-stones toward the complete unification of Zeta Tau Alpha and we must exert ourselves accordingly, knowing that it is ours to kick aside the stone and flounder in the stream of inefficient exertion toward success, or to land dry shod upon the firmer soil of national interest and lasting fellowship in the bonds of Zeta Tau Alpha.

So ran the introduction to the first directory which appeared in the July, 1910,<sup>12</sup> issue of *Themis*. Breathing the sincerity and steadfast purpose of its earnest author, it reflected the vision and planning of the day. And since this was the inaugural summer number of *Themis*—added to give the magazine a quarterly status and to qualify it for second-class mailing rights—it was an auspicious issue.

Arranged by chapters and states, the directory listed ten active chapters and three inactive ones. Alpha and Iota chapters made up the entire alumnæ section. Four Zetas had migrated to foreign lands—Mexico, China and Korea. Total membership was 544. "The maiden name, followed by the married name, was printed under the heading, 'Chapter Enrollment,' while the married name, followed by the maiden name, was given first when the listing was under states."

The compilation work was done by Clair Woodruff Bugg, Grand Secretary, to whom fell much of the pioneer work in that office, including the preparation of the first directories. She was the first cataloguer of the fraternity. Since this directory was not published as a separate catalogue, but as an issue of *Themis*, it bore the familiar *Themis* binding of the day.

Only three years passed before the second directory appeared. The explanatory editorial in the November, 1913, issue of *Themis*, which carried it, said:

For the complete directory appearing in this issue the fraternity is deeply indebted to our Grand Secretary, Mrs. James Luckin Bugg. . . . She is a capable woman of undoubted energy and she possesses a goodly portion of that rare quality, patience, and that still rarer quality, perseverance. Mrs. Bugg is in direct touch with practically every Zeta Tau Alpha. As Grand Secretary she has made a complete card catalogue of Zeta Tau Alphas. She prepared our first directory in 1910 as the inaugural summer issue of *Themis*. Not content with having made a complete record she straightway set about keeping it up to date. Thus, through her continued efforts we are able to present the 1913 directory.

By this date there were nineteen chapters, four of which were inactive. There was representation in 447 towns and the total membership was 965, with only thirteen members deceased. The chapter roll ended with Tau chapter. Five Zetas were in foreign lands. To the names listed by chapters and states an alphabetical section was added, with listing by married name.

Well-thumbed directories bore mute testimony of their constant use in those years when Zeta's membership was reaching for and passing the first one-thousand mark.

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS:** The third edition of the constitution and by-laws—a beautiful leather-bound book—appeared soon after the 1912 convention when, for the first time since the days of the handwritten red notebooks, the ritual and pledge service were combined, in the same volume, with the governing rules of the fraternity.<sup>13</sup>

### *Examinations*

If an informed electorate was the motivating reason for fraternity examinations, no compunction was felt in the early days about sharing the news generally if some member proved herself not too well informed. For the results were published in *Themis*. No record was left of the number of red faces—if any.

For there was no hiding one's ignorance. After the 1908 convention stipulated



that examinations be sent to Grand Chapter for grading, the President, who did that grading, published the results in *Themis*.

Next, the 1910 convention decided to have examinations given in alternate years, instead of annually. In her Galveston report Grace Jordan (Cook) said,

The work of holding fraternity examinations is . . . a duty of the Vice-President. The fifth convention two years ago adopted the ruling that [they] should be held only every two years, therefore no examination has been given this year.

The ensuing two years were clearly outlined some months before the 1912 meeting, when fraternity examinations received detailed attention in the second bulletin of that year issued by N.P.C. Zeta Tau Alpha's section was as follows:

#### *Zeta Tau Alpha*

Time—Biennial, alternating with conventions, February or March.

Type—(Same for all actives)—Five questions on general fraternities; five questions on Panhellenic matters, remaining five questions on Zeta Tau Alpha.

Preparation—Ritual, Sorority Handbook, National Panhellenic reports and bulletins.

Conduct—Questions prepared by Grand Council.

Grades—Papers graded by the Grand President and published in *Themis*.

The alternating-years-plan did not work out, so annual examinations were restored by the 1912 Virginia convention. Again, the Vice-President was "to hold the examinations, grade the papers and publish the grades in *Themis*. This Helen Baker did in 1913, but soon after Gladys Ayland (Glade) became Inspector, examinations were transferred to that office. She gave them at the time of inspection." Thus, as a matter of expediency and suitability they passed to the office "that had charge of them for many years after that."

In 1915 Julia Coe Rose, the next Inspector, issued, graded and classified them. And in time the less public method of grade listing in the esoteric publication superseded publication in *Themis*.

#### *Scholarship Loan Fund*

Ambitious and reaching out to help its own, the fourteen-year-old national was now ready to launch its first altruistic program—the Scholarship Loan Fund.<sup>14</sup> In fact, it was more than ready, for the fund was suggested in the 1912 convention reports of the President, the Alumnae Secretary, Beta, Mu and Xi chapters.

But it was to be a fund with a difference, for its sponsors planned not routine donations but earned contributions. Writing in *Themis*, Dr. Hopkins covered both the thinking and the plan. Her foreword to the loan's introduction said:

Education is the greatest investment that any one can deal in. It is an investment in which one receives full value with the greatest percentage of interest for every minute of time given and money spent. It is an investment that neither the shrewdest nor cleverest of men can take from you; neither can money buy it from you. Education once obtained is yours forever to use for your own benefit financially, physically, and morally.

Yet, it is not everyone that desires an education that is blessed with the privilege of obtaining it. But surely, we who are so blessed, and who know so well the advantage obtained, are willing to help our sisters. And so it was with a full knowledge and appreciation of the aforesaid that a scholarship endowment fund was inaugurated at last convention.

It is to be a fund whose money shall represent the work and sacrifice of every Zeta Tau Alpha; and a fund whose money shall be used as loans to any sister needing it, in order to make possible the continuance of her education which she would otherwise have to give up. April 1 is the date set on which every Zeta Tau Alpha is to contribute. . . . Chapters on that day are to make money for the fund in whatever way they wish. . . .

A National Charity Day on which the Zetas were to earn their contributions was set aside for the maintenance of the fund, although not until the 1915 convention was a definite day selected. April 1 became the day thereafter observed by the chapters down through the years.

Although primarily intended for members, the fund's benefits were not confined to them. "Other worthy students," as well as Zetas, qualified.

The 1912 convention also specified a five per-cent rate of interest with loans made under Grand Chapter's direction. The amount and date of maturity of the note was to be arranged according to the convenience of the borrower.

Since, at the start, the fund had no income other than contributions from chapters and individuals, it grew slowly, for the chapter roll was not large in those days. From 1912-1913,<sup>15</sup> \$19.25 was contributed. In 1913-1914<sup>16</sup> it was \$82.45. Tau chapter's \$20 was the largest donation. Pi and Xi's donations of \$15 came next. In 1914<sup>17</sup> the Wellsburg Alumnæ chapter was appointed to send cards of explanation and solicitation to the college and alumnæ members. Response was slow, but progress was being made. Then on April 27, 1918,<sup>18</sup> Omicron chapter presented a \$100 Liberty Bond. The fund was on its way.

### *Customs, Traditions and Policies*

**THE HONOR RING:** Now it was time to reward those whose service to the fraternity since leaving college had been outstanding. This the 1915 convention did by the creation of an alumnæ ring (honor ring) award, which thereafter became the fraternity's highest award. Convention accepted a design, and in those days the honoree purchased her own ring.

Procedure included submission of names and qualifications to Grand Chapter. Those qualifications were early defined as the performance of definite, distinctive fraternity work of a meritorious nature after leaving college. The ring was awarded by a unanimous vote of Grand Chapter. Awards were made only at national conventions.

Since four years elapsed before the next convention, presentations in this decade were announced only at the 1915 conclave. And because the action was retroactive to the days of founding, the 1915 list was the longest ever announced at one time. Members honored at that time were: Alpha—Maud Jones (Horner), Helen Crafford, Alice Bland Coleman, Ethel Coleman (Van Name), Mary Jones

(Batte), Ruby Leigh (Orgain), Della Lewis (Hundley), Alice Welsh, Frances Yancey Smith, Bruce Houston (Davis), Olive Hinman, Clair Woodruff (Bugg), Jessie Whitmore (Booker). Beta—Jewel Davis (Galloway), Mary Louise Patrick, Hellen Patrick (Cruse), Elizabeth Maddox (Stewart). Delta—Lollie Belle Hardwick (Stuart), Maude Alexander (Janney), Lillian Baird (Bradley), Catharine Bingle (Beverley), Evelyn Wilson (Whiteside). Zeta—Mary Wyatt Galbraith, Mary Hardin McCown. Epsilon—Grace Jordan (Cook), Emma Byrnes (Barnes), May Bollinger (Orgain), Zella Bryan (de Barard), Sue Burney, Irene Manning (Mathis). Kappa—May Agness Hopkins, Margaret Levy (Feuille), Ethel Cruse (Mouton), Ruth Newell Edenborough (Maverick), Anna Bess Moore, Hattie Mathee, Betty Cooper (Aycok). Lambda—Rose Nelson (Hughes), Kate Coltrane. Mu—Julia Pierce (Blain), Mable Wadlow (Willard), Elizabeth Darrow (Wells). Nu—Anita Waldhorst, Clara Belle Senn. Xi—Fanny Hunter (Taylor). Rho—Ethel Kingman. Tau—Verl Freyburger (Smurthwaite). Iota—Helen Baker, Lorena Boyd Mason.

**HONORARY MEMBERS:** The May, 1913, issue of *Themis* reprinted a symposium from the April bulletin of the National Panhellenic Congress, giving each fraternity's policy on the initiation of patronesses. Based on the reply of the Grand President, Zeta Tau Alpha's paragraph succinctly stated its continuing policy:

#### ZETA TAU ALPHA

*Custom*—Has patronesses.

*How Elected*—By each chapter.

*Ceremony Used*—Are not initiated.

*Estimate of Value*—System of patronesses is indorsed, but that of honorary members is strongly opposed on the ground that the fraternity is a college organization, and women who are elected either for prestige or personal accomplishments cannot understand the fraternity in its every phase, hence cannot have its real interest at heart. "The aim of the fraternity is not the mere addition of members, but the addition of only those who are willing to share the responsibilities of the fraternity and aid in the upbuilding of purer and nobler womanhood.

Summed up: No initiation of patronesses, and no honorary members.

**MODEL INITIATION AND GRAND CHAPTER INITIATES:** The accomplishment-proud 1912 Virginia meeting was the conclave that sponsored the first Grand Chapter initiate and launched the time-honored convention custom of model initiation. The *raison d'être* for this soon-to-be-permanent innovation was twofold: To insure a uniform ceremony while also allowing for the induction of "highly desirable women" not otherwise eligible for initiation. The latter



point was especially significant in view of the fraternity's thus-far marked disinclination toward honorary members. And these convention initiates were referred to as Grand Chapter initiates,<sup>19</sup> *not* as honorary initiates.

Edna Cannady (Gibson), (recommended by Mu), initiated in the first model ceremony to be held at a convention, was the first Grand Chapter initiate. Grand Chapter members officiated. Vyrna Welch (recommended by Tau), and Myra Shaw (Rogers) (recommended by Xi), were honored at the next (1915) convention.

### *Zeta Enters N.P.C.*

On February 25, 1909, Zeta Tau Alpha became the thirteenth organization to join the National Panhellenic Conference. It was a far-sighted move, dictated by a new trend in Greek affairs that began when the Conference was organized in 1902 with seven member<sup>20</sup> groups.

In 1910 the President's report declared that "in the past two years one advance has been made which will mean more to Zeta Tau Alpha than any other step that she has taken during these years—the admittance into the National Panhellenic Conference, February 25, 1909. This work was accomplished through the ever-zealous efforts of Mrs. William E. Davis, and so it is to her that Zeta Tau Alpha owes her debt of gratitude."

The President's words were prophetic of the importance of Zeta's membership in the new, but increasingly important Panhellenic organization, and they fittingly paid tribute to the extensive and difficult groundwork accomplished by Bruce Houston Davis before she retired from the presidency.

As early as 1905, Mrs. Davis realized the advantage, if not the necessity, of Conference affiliation. She urged it in the family circles and she began correspondence to bring it about. With entrance into the collegiate field, competition with N.P.C. groups was being encountered, and it was apparent to her that non-affiliation would constitute an increasing disadvantage in placing or maintaining chapters.

That very year, though, the Conference adopted an eligibility clause that barred from membership any group having chapters "in an institution below collegiate rank." Teachers' colleges and seminaries were not rated in the collegiate category. And Zeta's Alpha chapter was at a teachers' college.

This made Bruce Davis' task much more difficult, but it also brought the situation into sharp focus. The fraternity faced two alternatives—a future in the collegiate field as an N.P.C. affiliate, or a future in the non-collegiate field of the teachers' college and other institutions in that category. Zeta had chapters in both fields, but it was becoming apparent that operation in both was not going to be feasible, if indeed possible.



DR. MAY AGNESS HOPKINS. This picture appeared in the March, 1914, issues of the *Arrow* of Pi Beta Phi and *The Angelos* of Kappa Delta. (From the July, 1914, *Themis*.)

Without hesitation Mrs. Davis made the necessary trips to the chapters most concerned. Many earnest and tearful sessions culminated in the pre-convention agreement that Alpha and Eta would relinquish their charters.

In appreciation of the spirit shown, and according to the previous agreement with Alpha chapter, the 1906 convention, which officially withdrew Alpha and Eta's charters, did so with the understanding that a member of Alpha was to hold office on Grand Chapter as long as her alumnæ were qualified.<sup>21</sup>

With the withdrawal of these two charters, Zeta Tau Alpha met the Conference's eligibility requirements. Admission was at the next biennial meeting.

Zeta Tau Alpha was represented for the first time at the eighth conference (1909), by the newly elected President, May Agness Hopkins, who, in turn, had been selected by the 1910 convention to represent the fraternity at this meeting. In fact, until the 1917 Grand Chapter meeting in Dallas, Texas, there was no "specific provision designating the President as the official N.P.C. delegate, except by convention appointment or election."

In 1911 the *Conference* changed its name to *Congress*. It was to meet annually and "be presided over by the fraternities in rotation." The official list given at that time was:

1. Pi Beta Phi; 2. Kappa Alpha Theta; 3. Kappa Kappa Gamma; 4. Alpha Phi; 5. Delta Gamma; 6. Gamma Phi Beta; 7. Alpha Chi Omega; 8. Delta Delta Delta; 9. Alpha Xi Delta; 10. Chi Omega; 11. Sigma Kappa; 12. Alpha Omicron Pi; 13. Zeta Tau Alpha; 14. Alpha Gamma Delta; 15. Alpha Delta Pi; 16. Delta Zeta.

Those sixteen groups constituted N.P.C.'s roster in 1911. The plan of rotation remained in use but the meetings were returned to biennial status in 1915.

Rose Nelson (Hughes) attended the 1912 Conference with Zeta's official delegate, Dr. Hopkins, "as a valuable preliminary experience before starting on her work as the first Visiting Delegate."

When Dr. Hopkins was unable to attend, Gladys Ayland (Glade) represented the fraternity in 1913, but Dr. Hopkins was present for the 1914 meeting.

The Editor's Conference of N.P.C. came into being in 1913, with thirteen editors and three business managers present. The ensuing report explained that "those fraternities whose editors were unable to be present were represented . . . by other Council officers." They also predicted accurately "that the Editor's Conference will become a permanent feature." It did.

Since the 1915 Congress was held at the same time and place as Zeta Tau Alpha's California convention, the fraternity had its largest representation of national officers thus far. Almost the entire Grand Chapter, both new and old, were there. The names of Dr. Hopkins, Fanny Hunter (Taylor), Clair Woodruff (Bugg), Mary L. Patrick, Ruth Newell Edenborough (Maverick), Agatha Boyd (Adams), Mary Wyatt Galbraith and Gladys Ayland (Glade) were listed in the official bulletin.

Mary L. Patrick acted as the fraternity's delegate in 1917.

### *World War I*

War times engulfed the country in April, 1917, with the formal declaration of war against Germany, and aside from the personal lives that were affected in one way or another, Zeta Tau Alpha felt the war's impact in a way no other women's fraternity did when its indomitable Grand President "offered her services to her country as a physician and child specialist."

Her call came shortly before the epochal 1918 meeting to which she sent a resignation that naturally was not accepted. Instead, she was voted a leave of absence, and Grand Chapter drew up the following Resolution which was sent to her and printed in *Themis*:

#### *Resolution*

With heartfelt appreciation of our Grand President, who represents the highest type of complete womanhood, with a mind that thinks nobly, a hand that ministers skillfully and a heart that beats in sympathy with human suffering and need, and with grateful recognition of her splendid leadership which has enabled our fraternity to achieve the lofty purpose for which it was organized, we, the members of Grand Chapter, offer the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That it is the earnest wish of each officer of Grand Chapter that our friend and leader continue in office as Grand President of Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity, being relieved of all duties of the position during her absence occasioned by service overseas in behalf of the children of that land which has fought so heroically and suffered so patiently for those principles which we as a nation hold most dear.

Clair Woodruff Bugg  
Mary Louise Patrick  
Christine Bertholas  
Fanny Hunter  
Gladys Ayland  
Julia Coe

Dr. May's reply on the eve of embarkation was also printed in *Themis*:

*To my sisters in Zeta Tau Alpha:*

When I received the resolution of my co-workers of Grand Chapter expressing their appreciation of my work, my heart simply filled to overflowing and I now am unable to find words with which to express my appreciation of your thoughtfulness. But I do wish you to know this: If I have been able to serve my fraternity with the least degree of



efficiency; and through it to serve my sisters at large, it has only been through the untiring and loyal support you have given me as my co-officers and co-workers. It is true that our beloved fraternity has grown and through it I have grown—but you have been the power behind the throne. To you I give all the praise, all the honor. For myself I can only say, “May I live to serve you and those I love again.”

May Agness Hopkins.

But instead of the usual identification worn by World War I workers, Zeta’s President wore a beautiful solid-gold bracelet which bore the raised Greek letters, ZTA. It has been Omicron’s gift to her when the first Georgia chapter was installed in 1910. Inside the bracelet Dr. Hopkins had her name and address engraved. This bit of Zeta went through the war with her.\*



Dr. Hopkins In Uniform.

The nineteen-year-old fraternity adopted no individual war project to support as an organization, but its members and chapters took an active part in all phases of the 1917-1918 war effort. Everything was on a more individual basis—indeed, participation individually must have been close to one hundred per cent.

Chapters purchased Liberty Bonds, entertained soldiers, participated in drives and were active in Red Cross and all kinds of war work.

The cleaning of sphagnum moss—“highly valued for surgical dressings and greatly desired by army surgeons”—was the unusual work chosen by the almost brand-new Psi chapter. The moss was gathered from marshes near Seattle. For this service the chapter received many letters of commendation. Seattle also furnished an interpreter for the Department of Justice—Helen Bushnell (Runner). An expert linguist, she was instrumental in apprehending several enemy aliens.

Many Zetas entered various branches of the government while others contributed services at home. There were enough Zetas in Washington to form an alumnae group—and they did. Other members were leaders and workers in

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\* From July, 1918, to September 1918, Dr. Hopkins was with the Smith College unit at Chateau Thierry and was soon placed in charge of the wounded that were brought from that battlefield to the railway station for evacuation. When she left the front she was given charge of what was known as the Southern Zone, which included thirteen departments that bordered the Mediterranean. Given full jurisdiction over the organization, she was the only woman M.D. who received the honor of being made chief of a zone. Her cards read: “*Doctoresse May Agness Hopkins, Chef du Services Des Enfants, Croix Rouge Americaine, Zone Sud, Marseilles.*” She returned to the States in 1919.

their communities, and everyone lived by the *conservation* slogan and rules that were so effectively observed and carried out on a voluntary basis.

The armistice was signed on November 11, 1918.

### Roster of Officers

#### 1908-1910

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Grand President .....             | May Agness Hopkins, <i>Kappa</i>                   |
| Grand Vice-President-Editor ..... | Grace Jordan (Cook), <i>Epsilon</i>                |
| Grand Secretary .....             | Clair Woodruff (Bugg), <i>Alpha</i>                |
| Grand Treasurer .....             | { Lillian Baird (Bradley),* <i>Delta</i> , 1908-09 |
|                                   | { Mary L. Patrick, <i>Beta</i> , 1909-10           |
| Grand Historian .....             | { Lorena Boyd Mason, <i>Iota</i> , 1908-09         |
|                                   | { Bruce Houston (Davis), <i>Alpha</i> , 1909-10    |
| Business Manager .....            | Mary L. Patrick, <i>Beta</i>                       |

#### 1910-1912

|                            |                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Grand President .....      | May Agness Hopkins, <i>Kappa</i>      |
| Grand Vice-President ..... | Grace Jordan (Cook), <i>Epsilon</i>   |
| Grand Secretary .....      | Clair Woodruff (Bugg), <i>Alpha</i>   |
| Grand Treasurer .....      | Mary L. Patrick, <i>Beta</i>          |
| Grand Historian .....      | Bruce Houston (Davis), <i>Alpha</i>   |
| Grand Editor .....         | Margaret Levy (Feuille), <i>Kappa</i> |

#### 1912-1915

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Grand President .....      | May Agness Hopkins, <i>Kappa</i>                     |
| Grand Vice-President ..... | Helen Baker, <i>Iota</i>                             |
| Grand Secretary .....      | Clair Woodruff Bugg, <i>Alpha</i>                    |
| Grand Treasurer .....      | Mary L. Patrick, <i>Beta</i>                         |
| Grand Historian .....      | Bruce Houston (Davis), <i>Alpha</i>                  |
| Grand Editor .....         | { Margaret Levy (Feuille), <i>Kappa</i> , 1912-13    |
|                            | { Mary Wyatt (Galbraith), <i>Zeta</i> , 1913-15      |
| Inspector .....            | { Rose Nelson (Hughes) <i>Lambda-Delta</i> , 1912-13 |
|                            | { Gladys Ayland (Glade), <i>Mu</i> , 1913-15         |

#### 1915-1919

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Grand President .....      | Mary Agness Hopkins, <i>Kappa</i>                            |
| Grand Vice-President ..... | Fanny Hunter (Taylor), <i>Xi</i>                             |
| Grand Secretary .....      | Clair Woodruff (Bugg), <i>Alpha</i>                          |
| Grand Treasurer .....      | Mary L. Patrick, <i>Beta</i>                                 |
| Grand Historian .....      | { Ruth Newell Edenborough (Maverick), <i>Kappa</i> , 1915-17 |
|                            | { Gladys Ayland (Glade), <i>Mu</i> , 1917-19                 |
| Grand Editor .....         | { Agatha Boyd (Adams), <i>Delta</i> , 1916-17                |
|                            | { Christine Bertholas (Olsen), <i>Upsilon</i> , 1917-19      |
| Inspector .....            | { Gladys Ayland (Glade), <i>Mu</i> , 1915-17                 |
|                            | { Julia Coe (Rose), <i>Delta-Omega</i> , 1917-19             |

\* (Lillian Baird Bradley and Lorena Boyd Mason had resigned. Mary Patrick, Business Manager, then became Grand Treasurer and Business Manager, the offices being combined. Bruce Houston Davis, Alpha, was appointed Grand Historian.)

## Supplementary Notes

1. Elected at the 1908 Arkansas convention.
2. Rose Nelson (Hughes), Lambda-Delta, was the first traveling officer. The first chapter to be inspected was Sigma. Mu came next, while her third visit was to install Tau chapter. By the time she resigned to be married, after just one year of travel, she had inspected every chapter except Xi and Rho. The latter had just been installed.
 

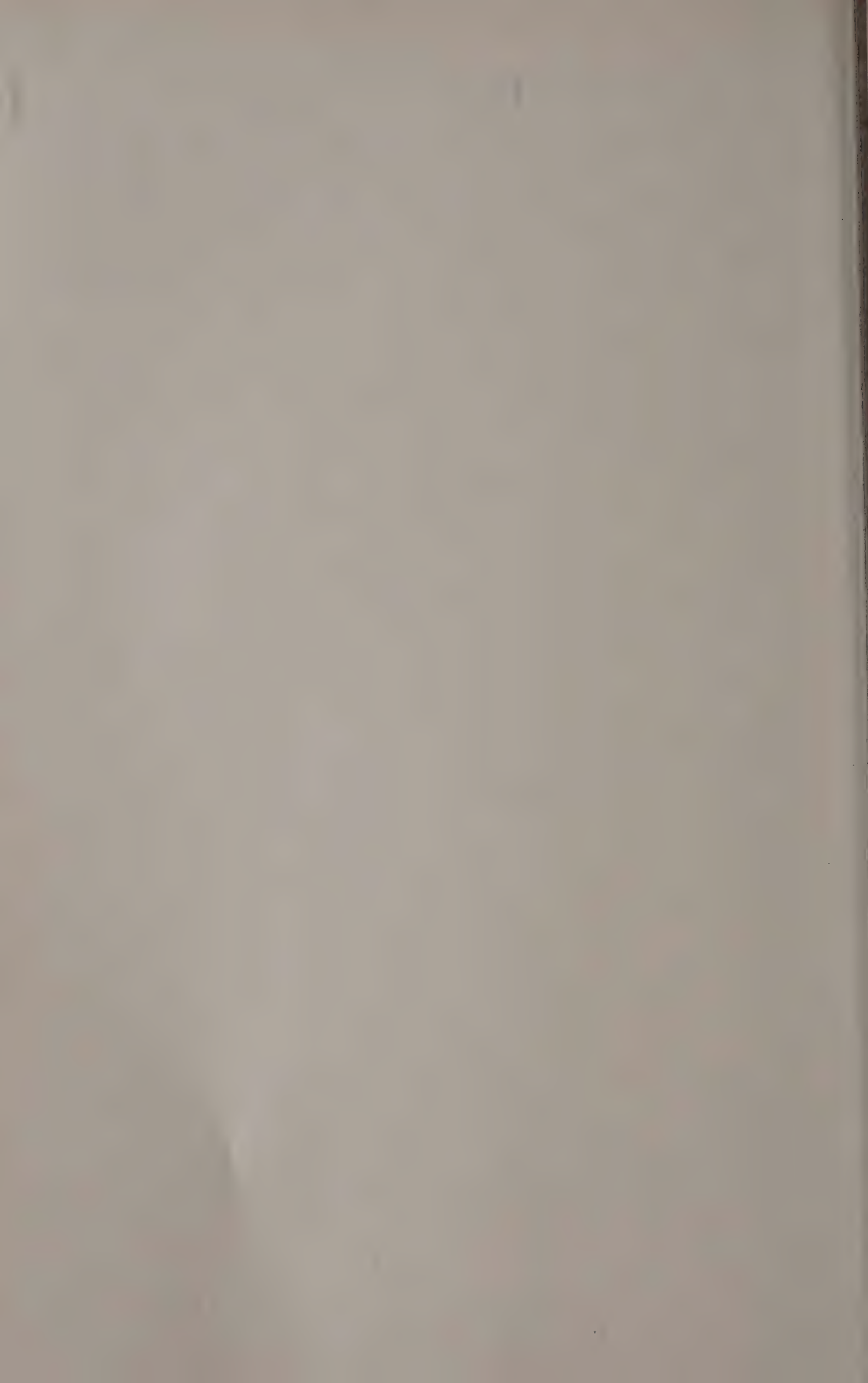
Although one pledge introduced her as "our detective" ("and was horrified when she realized her mistake"), chapters looked forward to the Inspector's visit. The widely scattered chapters were eager to know each other, and other Zetas. Except for their own group, Sigma had seen no other Zetas before her visit, for the charter members who had known the installing officer were no longer in college.

Until this fourteenth year the fraternity had no officer officially assigned solely to visitation work. Actually, it boasted one remarkably early. The new officer received her coaching from the President en route from Dallas to Chicago to attend N.P.C.
3. The first Grand Chapter meeting was held in Jellico, Tennessee, at the home of Bruce Houston Davis.
4. For years Zeta Tau Alpha was the only N.P.C. fraternity granting charters by Grand Chapter vote alone.
5. From 1910-1912, two permanent committees were listed in *Themis*: Extension and Alumnæ.
6. Ethel Cruse Mouton, Kappa-Beta, was the first Alumnæ Secretary.
7. A 1928 commentary in the first *History of Zeta Tau Alpha* considered it interesting "that the first chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha was in the historically famous state of Virginia, while the first northern chapter was in the equally famed state of Massachusetts."
8. The subscription price was raised to \$1.50 after being \$1.00 from the time of founding. In March, 1914, the circulation was 650 as against the 300 copies called for in the previous contract. Going further back, in 1910 there were 167 paid subscribers, 104 of whom were active members. Sixty-two were alumnæ. "There were then 563 living Zeta Tau Alphas," the record showed.
9. Mary Wyatt Galbraith passed on in 1917.
10. This convention arranged for the crediting of a certain portion of the national dues to the *Themis* fund, while the initiation fee entitled the initiate to the magazine for one year, plus two years after leaving college. This was a progressive step, for from the national dues and initiation fees, the member was assured of receiving *Themis* while she was in college, and for two years thereafter.
11. The financing of the song book was unusual. The bill was paid by Dr. Hopkins in 1909, when immediate funds were not available to meet the publishing expense. However, the money was refunded to her by the 1910 convention which voted "that \$100 be paid to our Grand President for [the] amount we owe her for the . . . song books."
12. At the 1910 convention Clair Woodruff Bugg reported that she had "organized the Grand Secretary's material into a card catalogue system for the first time."
13. Years later her experiences during the reprinting of this combined constitution, ritual, and pledge service were still vivid in Clair Bugg's memory. In 1925 she remembered that "the constitution, ritual and pledge service had to be reprinted and, being Secretary, that became my lot. In going over the Greek in our old constitution, we found that some of it needed attention. We had no expert Greek scholars in those early



days so I got my sister, who was an excellent Greek scholar, and our minister, to correct our Greek where corrections were needed. It is all very funny now but never shall I forget the visits to our minister in Alabama to verify those Greek names. Then came the task of reprinting the constitution, rituals, etc. What a rich experience I had and what a valuable lesson in patience. The firm in Alabama who printed the books . . . felt that red leather bindings would look just as well as gray, so I had to refuse their bindings and get the books bound elsewhere. Then after the job was completed, the new Greek names had to be printed in each constitution in Greek and English for the chapters. That is why this one service has ever been one of my greatest tasks."

14. Although the fund was originally called an "endowment fund," the Grand Treasurer at that time, Mary L. Patrick, said that the plan always was, so far as she knew, to use the fund itself, and not to wait for accrued interest.
15. Contributors were Johnson City, Wellsburg, and Mu, with Kappa sending the largest amount, \$10.25.
16. There were fourteen contributors and the 1912-1913 donors were again faithful.
17. In October, 1914, there was \$101.45 in the fund.
18. On July 1, 1918, the fund showed a balance of \$582.96, a gradual increase.
19. The procedure of selection was: recommendation of honorees by the various chapters and the unanimous vote of Grand Chapter.
20. They were Alpha Phi, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Kappa Alpha Theta, Pi Beta Phi, Delta Gamma, Gamma Phi Beta and Delta Delta Delta. The first Intersorority Conference, May 24, 1902, was called by Alpha Phi, whose "visiting delegate had become sorely perplexed . . . by the problems of hectic rushing, campus extravagances and seeming lack of sportsmanship among fraternities." Mrs. Margaret Mason Whitney was then Alpha Phi's president. M. Ruth Terry, Alpha, acted as chairman of the meetings which were held in a committee room of a Chicago bank vault. The seven agreed upon saner pledging, and the establishment of local Panhellenics to regulate rushing. In 1908 the name of the organization was changed to National Pan-Hellenic Conference. In due time Pan-Hellenic became Panhellenic.
21. Except for a five-year period between 1919 and 1926, this stipulation was carried out. Bruce Houston Davis, the last Alpha member to serve, was a member of Grand Chapter from 1926-1930.



9

*The Third Decade*

1918-1928

6



## *Zeta Tau Alpha Symphony*

*Thou, Zeta Tau Alpha, so live each day,  
That thou may hear the Master say,  
"On earth thou hast been a woman true,  
Thou has nobly followed the gray and blue.  
A friend and counsellor of sisterhood,  
On earth thou hast been a living good;  
And for thy tasks so worked with grace,  
Upon thy brow a crown I place."*

CLARA ODELL SQUIRES, Alpha Rho

*Introduced in THEMIS during the third decade, this Symphony appeared regularly in the magazine for many years.*

## Preface

THE ROARING TWENTIES were but two years away when Zeta's third decade opened in a time of post-war commotion, jangled nerves and strikes (including a buyers' strike), caused by a continuation of war time's high cost of living. Industrial depression and failures followed as prices fell. The war years' *c'est la guerre* became an extinct expression. A Red scare, bomb plots and deportation of radicals brought demands for a reduction in immigration.

The American Legion was formed in May, 1919. A British pilot and an American navigator made the first non-stop Atlantic crossing; the U.S. NC4 achieved the first round-the-world flight. The Volstead Act ushered in Prohibition and the 18th amendment became a part of the constitution. After war-time government operation, the railroads were returned to private control in 1920.

The fateful treaty of Versailles was drawn up; the map of Europe was re-made. New names appeared; new countries emerged. Familiar countries, including Serbia, where the war started, disappeared as separate Kingdoms when new boundary lines absorbed them. The great pianist, Paderewski, led reborn Poland. Germany's vanquished Kaiser was interned in Holland.

The League of Nations was launched without the United States' participation. There were the World Court, the Washington Conference for the Limitation of Armaments, the soldiers' bonus, a threatening situation with Japan. The health of President Wilson broke while in office. His successor, Warren G. Harding, died while returning from an Alaskan trip. In his lamp-lit Vermont home at 2:30 A.M. on August 2, 1923, Calvin Coolidge was given the oath of office by his father.

Women were granted equal voting rights with men. The electric car made its exit and so did the chaperone; enclosed automobiles began to replace earlier open cars; horses entered the rarity stage. The victrola's popularity faded as radio emerged from crystal sets and head phones to 1928's Amos and Andy and Rudy Vallee's introduction of crooning. In a hot and highly publicized controversy over the teaching of evolution in state supported schools, silver-tongued William Jennings Bryan led the Fundamentalists against the Modernists. Feminine hearts fluttered when the popular, unmarried Prince of Wales visited

the United States and Canada. The stock market's invariable trend was upward.

By 1922 medical science had added fourteen years to the average life; the tomb of the Egyptian King Tutankhamen was found in the Valley of the Kings, near Luxor—"the greatest archeological discovery of all time"; followers of Coué were repeating: "every day in every way I am getting better and better." Stage and screen's rope-twirling Will Rogers became the nation's beloved home-spun philosopher. Florida was the decade's big real estate development until the boom burst in 1926. Lured by the drop in the value of foreign currency, American expatriates lived happily abroad. Boats were crowded. The great push was on as Americans trekked Europe-ward by the thousands.

Cordial to change, the whirling-dervish twenties was the decade of the young, post-war emphasis being placed upon the young simply because they were young. Reversing age-long custom and Biblical precept, youth was the model, age the imitator in many respects. In 1921 F. Scott Fitzgerald fired the opening gun in the pro-freedom, pro-youth campaign, and youth began feverishly burning the candle at both ends. A self-styled intelligentsia flourished in New York's Greenwich Village. "Flaming youth," the jazz age, the racoon coat-Stutz Bearcat era arrived with its wise-cracking and lost-generationism. Cartoonist John Held, Jr., was its official portrayer. Night clubs and name bands made their début. So did speakeasies and gangsters.

Long dresses gave way to the low-waisted short dress of 1925. Flappers flapped in skirts above rouged knees; bobbed their hair (as women generally began to do); and dropped their waistlines. The débutante slouch was the posture, the cloche was the hat and the Charleston the dance until the "shocking" toddle moved in. When Elinor Glyn gave a simple pronoun a new meaning, the language annexed a new word and Clara Bow became the "It" girl—symbol of the age.

The twenties took up mah jong; auction bridge still held sway; men golfed in plus fours and Bobbie Jones was the golfer's idol. Bill Tilden and Helen Wills headlined the golden age of tennis. Babe Ruth swung his way to baseball immortality. The world hailed a new hero when young Charles Lindberg flew solo over the Atlantic in the *Spirit of St. Louis*.

Rudolph Valentino, film idol of thousands of feminine fans, skyrocketed to fame in "The Shiek." "The Ten Commandments" and "The Covered Wagon" were spectacles that thrilled movie patrons. They went to see such pictures as "Tol'able David," "Orphans of the Storm," "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" and "The Merry Widow," successes of the soon-to-be vanquished silent movies.

The "talkies" came in. New stars were born as disqualifying voices banished many a star of the silent screen. Al Jolson had immortalized "Mammy," and the country was talking about "The Jazz Singer." The hybrid saxophone elbowed the sweet singing violin out of its former dominance in the orchestra; Paul



Whiteman became the Jazz King; George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" was garnering growing recognition in musical circles. Launched were torch singing and the "blues." Canebrake pronunciations burst forth. "Hill-billy" songs (from the Appalachians and Ozarks) and western cowboy songs emerged when the narrative songs of previous decades fell a casualty to the times. Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, Sigmund Romberg, Rudolph Friml and Ferdie Grofé were a few of the top flight composers.

Some of the songs they sang were:

"I'll See You in My Dreams," "California Here I Come," "Happy Days Are Here Again," "When Day is Done," "Singing In the Rain," "Swanee," "Chinatown," "Three O'clock In The Morning," "Who," "Moonlight on the Ganges," "In a Little Spanish Town," "My Blue Heaven," "Moonlight and Roses," "Japanese Sandman," "Song of Songs," "Wonderful One," "Charmaine."

Plays from which songs were still heard decades later were:

"Blossom Time," "Show Boat," "The Student Prince," "Rose Marie," "The Desert Song," "Good News," "New Moon," "Lady in Ermine," "No, No, Nanette," "Lady be Good," "Countess Maritza," "My Maryland," "The Vagabond King."

Jermone Kern's timeless "Ol' Man River" emerged from "Show Boat," the stage version of Edna Ferber's famous book. A few other lasting tunes from this decade's shows were:

"Look for the Silver Lining," "April Showers," "My Man," "Bill," "Say It With Music," "When Hearts Are Young," "Kiss In The Dark," "Tea for Two," "Deep in My Heart," "Serenade," "Lady Be Good," "Indian Love Call," "One Alone," "My Heart Stood Still," "Why Do I Love You?" "Make Believe," "The Best Things in Life are Free," "Lover Come Back To Me," "March of the Vagabonds."

In contrast were some immensely popular songs on the lighter side:

"Yes, We Have No Bananas," "I Faw Down an' Go Boom," "Yes Sir, That's My Baby," "Collegiate," "Horses," "Mister Gallagher and Mr. Shean," "Makin' Whoopie."

The theatre flourished. Blazoned on marquee lights were such stage names as:

The Barrymores (Ethel, John and Lionel), Katharine Cornell, Alfred Lunt, Lynn Fontanne, Jane Cowl, John Drew, Julia Marlowe, Billie Burke, Richard Bennett, Elsie Ferguson, E. H. Sothorn, Margaret Anglin, Mrs. Fisk, William Faversham, Marilyn Miller, Eddie Cantor, Fred Stone, Margaret Anglin, Laurette Taylor, Lionel Atwill, Henry Miller.

The first "Charlot's Revue" imported from London brought Gertrude Lawrence, Beatrice Lillie and Jack Buchanan.

Operatic names included those of Galli-Curci, Rosa Raisa, Cavalieri, Tito Schipa, Muratore, Richard Crooks, Claire Dux, Tetrazzini, Lily Pons. Concertgoers flocked to hear Ireland's John McCormack. Brilliant pianists appeared on the concert stage; Rachmaninoff, de Pachmann, Myra Hess, Rubinstein and

others. Among the famed violinists were Fritz Kreisler, Zimbalist, Heifitz, Albert Spaulding.

Plays the twenties went to see included:

"Caesar and Cleopatra," "What Price Glory," "Outward Bound," "Craig's Wife," "Dulcy," "The Better 'Ole," "Madame X," "Kiki," John Drinkwater's "Abraham Lincoln," "Anna Christie," "Caesar's Wife," "Smilin' Through," "For the Defense."

Sinclair Lewis electrified the country with "Main Street," the post-war period's most discussed book. The decade talked, wrote and read:

Edith Wharton, Ellen Glasgow, Zona Gale, Floyd Dell, H. G. Wells, George Bernard Shaw, James Oliver Curwood, Joseph Hergesheimer, Ben Ames Williams, Fannie Hurst, Theodore Dreiser, W. Somerset Maugham, Dorothy Canfield Fisher, Mary Roberts Reinhardt, Albert Payson Terhune, Temple Bailey, Robert Nathan, Christopher Morley, Irving Bacheller, Sinclair Lewis, Willa Cather, Joseph Conrad, Gertrude Atherton, John Galsworthy, Emerson Hough, Edna Ferber, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Rafael Sabatini, John Erskine, Martha Osteno, Michael Arlen, A. S. M. Hutchinson, Eugene O'Neill, Ernest Hemingway, Stephen Leacock, Rupert Hughes, Irwin Cobb, Erich Remarque, H. L. Mencken.

The books they read included:

"The Age of Innocence," "Tutt and Mr. Tutt," the "Tish" series, "Main Street," "Babbitt," "Miss Lulu Bett," "So Big," "Outline of History," "The Valley of Silent Men," "This Side of Paradise," "The Forsyte Saga," "Stella Dallas," "Scaramouche," "If Winter Comes," "Beau Geste," "Drums," "Wild Geese," "The Perennial Bachelor," "Sorrel and Son," "The Private Life of Helen of Troy," "The Great Gatsby," "The Glory Hole," "All Quiet on the Western Front."

In a renaissance of poetical writing there appeared the names of Vachel Lindsay, Elinor Wylie, Carl Sandburg, Robert Frost, Edwin Arlington Robinson. Youthful Edna St. Vincent Millay was the era's own poet of the young.

The writings of the twenties expressed new points of view. Novelized biographies were popular; Francis Hackett's "King Edward VIII" was a best-seller. Great biographies, such as Sandburg's "Abraham Lincoln" appeared.

The word "debunking" was coined—an offshoot of the critical-style trend of rewriting biographies. Working up to a crescendo from an earlier start—and spearheaded by the new South's own writers—the full force of the attack on the sentimental tradition of the storied South struck in the twenties.

With the tempo of living accelerated to a high pitch, with music, song, gaiety, prosperity and the merry tick of the upward moving stock market, the year 1928 ended on a gay note—the last year of a period often called the golden age in American history.

## The Chapters

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**A**LPHA GAMMA: Because there were two Zeta Tau Alphas at the University of Michigan in 1919, there soon were more Zeta Tau Alphas, and by 1920 the chapter roster listed a chapter in the state of Michigan.

"Under the wing of this great university, a local organization was founded in 1919 with the sole purpose of petitioning Zeta Tau Alpha." First known as Alpha Gamma local, its name-for-awhile, it was colonized under the direction of Adelia Hobbs and Esther Lou Boyd (Vail), from Theta chapter. Coming from the closely knit Bethany College group, the void in their lives at Michigan was such that they resolved to do something about it. And that something was the colonization of a chapter.

Seldom has a more uninhibited tale been blithely spun than the gay narrative of Frances Stiles who thought "the only way . . . is to begin at the very beginning and let you hear about everything that has happened since last month when things began to happen."

Her readers then learned that "they really started in November, but the first five members didn't get rushed—just talked to, so nothing really interesting happened until March when new curtain rods were bought, [also] one potted plant and some crêpe paper and a tea was somehow brought about in honor of Violet Foster and Marion Woodmansee.

"For the benefit of the chapters who haven't had to overcome the struggles of League houses, let me state here that the tea was a great triumph over innumerable difficulties. But it certainly paid, and encouraged us to try another, and in a couple of weeks we were rewarded by getting both Marion and Violet as charter members. Next we tried a faculty tea and made up for the lack of space and decorations by being so nice to the faculty wives that they all really enjoyed themselves; something a bit unusual for them at such affairs, we judged," she continued.

"After spring vacation we gave several more very informal little teas and Sunday evening lunches which were cozy and homey around the [fireplace]. Then we added Frances Robbins to our list. About that time the leaves began to make their appearance on the trees and the mornings got so perfectly wonderful that we couldn't resist breakfast in the country once in a while, so we decided to take some of the girls along and show them what good times we



had. Evidently hot coffee and wieners and bacon on a crisp spring morning after a mile's walk seemed to appeal . . . and it wasn't long before Margaret Scamahorne and Marguerite Warren said the right word and became one of us."

During this time the colonizers were in touch with Grand Chapter, who, when the time seemed right, sent the National Inspector, Evelyn Callicutt, to take the official steps. Feeling elated over the acquisition of the final two members, Alpha Gamma local was "writing to Grand Chapter about things when all of a sudden a telegram arrived from Evelyn Callicutt one day, saying that she would arrive on the two o'clock train." Although this was the long-looked-for visit, the usual scramble ensued.

"A perfect orgy of room cleaning followed and good behavior was brought out and dusted off for the occasion," they reported. "Much whispering and advising and lecturing ensued behind closed doors, then we A.G.'s filed into Adelia's room to meet the girl whom we had heard so much about." Hers was a complete conquest—the girl from Texas among these Zeta aspirants. Inspired, "she filled us to the brim with enthusiasm and plans for the future and made us feel extra proud that we were to really wear the Z T A pin."

Evelyn Callicutt arrived in May for this official visit and the installation of Alpha Gamma followed on June 1-2, 1920. She was assisted by Lucille Litaker, Phi, Adelia Hobbs and Esther Lou Boyd (Vail). Initiated at that time were: Florence Burd Derrick (Camp), Margaret Alice Downing, Violet Foster, Sylvia Ralston (Smith), Frances Rowena Robbins, Martha Shepard (Collins), Frances Stiles, Margaret Elise Theilman (Paull), Marion Woodmansee (Smith), Marguerite Warren (Helms), Marjorie Rorick and Margaret Scamahorne (Votey).

After initiation they "had a banquet at Foster's tearoom. We had it entirely to ourselves that night and felt behind the locked doors almost as if it were our own house." Small tables were "grouped together and made attractive by a dainty corsage at each place. The menu announced that there were to be toasts, but we had talks instead by all the girls and some of them were pretty serious, too. Initiation time was a happy but thoughtful time, for we realized that we had really just started the big work and that it was up to us as the first members to make our chapter what we wanted it and to mold its ideals for the future. Few of us thought at that time that in three short months from then we would be entirely settled in one of Ann Arbor's prettiest homes."

There were eleven other women's fraternities at Michigan in 1920, the Zeta chapter being the twelfth.

ALPHA DELTA: Concerning Zeta Tau Alpha's first chapter in the state of Indiana, the preceding *History of Zeta Tau Alpha* reflected that "it would be interesting to relate some of the stories . . . heard in the course of historical

investigations as to how the chapter at Butler came about—for versions and still other versions have presented themselves.”

But in the final analysis, and after verifications, Alpha Delta’s beginning traces back to Ida Shaw Martin’s interest in Butler University as a promising field for fraternities. She, with other fraternity leaders, discussed this promising but not fully covered field with Dr. May Agness Hopkins, Zeta’s President at that time. The conclusion was reached that this was a university to be looked into at once. So the National Inspector was brought into the planning.

After a conference between Evelyn Callicutt and Mrs. Martin, the Zeta officer was given the cooperation of a member of Delta Delta Delta at Butler, who gave her the names of several girls well fitted to be the founders of a new group. These recommendations were corroborated by the president of the university and the dean of women. Miss Callicutt then went to Indianapolis on November 16, 1919, and after careful consideration, two highly recommended girls, Naomi Baker (Lyda) and Esther Heuss (Cline), were selected. They became the original members of Alpha Delta chapter. During the year others were added until the chapter numbered fifteen, and the groundwork was laid.

Obviously, the selected band had Zeta Tau Alpha as its goal and purpose for being. Therefore, although they effected formal organization and elected officers, no name was selected. Wouldn’t they have a certain name very soon—they hoped? Whether by design or preference, the group’s existence was kept secret until announcement of the chapter’s installation was made in chapel. Existing thus quietly, but expectantly, there was no social life, but during this interval Martha McIntosh (Morrison), Tau, who was then teaching in Indianapolis, acted as their adviser in all things pertaining to the fraternity.

After the few months’ waiting and planning period, it was time to set the installation date and coordinate the details. Zetas were to come from other chapters and it was the end of the college year. On May 17, 1920, the charter was granted, and the date set. Vividly describing the ensuing Indianapolis scene and developments, Gladys McKelvey gave *Themis* readers a step-by-step narrative.

“You probably don’t know what an uncertain time we had at the time of installation,” she wrote. “The date was set several times and just when we would think everything was in good shape, along would come a letter or telegram postponing everything perhaps for an indefinite period, or worse yet, for the whole summer, and on one occasion when we thought we would be installed in about a week and were making plans accordingly, we received word that it would probably be in two days.

“You can imagine the excitement that caused,” she continued, “because we were making arrangements for a banquet at the Claypool Hotel, and since

[a] national convention . . . was being held that week, hotel space was at a premium. But finally, after using what seemed a countless number of special delivery stamps and after sending and receiving telegrams at every conceivable time of the day and night, Evelyn Callicutt arrived in Indianapolis on Friday, June 5. . . . Needless to say, we all fell in love with her. The Tri Deltas were giving a little tea for us that afternoon, so we all went in a body, and the National President of Delta Delta Delta was there, too."

If the weeks were hectic and suspense-filled, plainly the flavor was highly enjoyable. Anticipation mounted.

The first stage was at hand. "On Friday night we were pledged at the home of Naomi Baker," the chapter secretary reported, "and when we at last got to our homes that night, it was with the happy thought that things were then really and truly started." Then she could not resist adding, "Not a few of the girls reported the next morning that in order to wear their pledge pins longer, they wore them on their nighties."

On Saturday, June 5, initiation took place at the home of Naomi Baker (Lyda), 95 North Hawthorne Lane. The National Inspector, Evelyn Callicutt, formally installed Alpha Delta chapter. She was assisted by Martha McIntosh (Morrison), Adeline Mattes (Koch), Elizabeth Stein (Heinz), Helen Coffey and Irene Corzine, from Tau chapter, and Ann Marion Looney (Cowan) of Chi.

The initiates were: Naomi Baker (Lyda), Norris Stanley (Porter), Gladys McKelvey (Jacobsen), Esther Renfrew, Esther Heuss (Cline), Gladys Chadwick (Reed), Ada Raschka (Demaree), Helen Clark (Wright), Edith Christian (Betner), Estle Fisk (Bowen), Julia Miller (Emhardt), Gladys Bruce (Gainey), Louise Duncan (Wells), Leda Hughes (Johnson) and Alice Crozier (Fennell). Conscious of the meticulous care given to the perfection of the services, the chapter secretary explained that "with fifteen people to take through, the installing Zetas were practically exhausted." Naomi Baker was their charter president.

Full-fledged initiates, they hurried home to dress for the evening's formal banquet. Taking the initial letters of the fraternity's name, they poured out their hearts and thoughts in developing the theme that presented such broad possibilities of amplification.

"Naomi Baker used Z for Zeal, and outlined our history, and the zeal necessary to keep everybody together." They were "not to . . . get discouraged when things didn't seem to be going just right," for in the days ahead they knew there would be many times when things [would] not go "just right."

Martha McIntosh, who had been the 1919 convention toastmistress, "made Triumph from the T of our ZTA." Charting encouragement for the days ahead she pointed out that "even though we thought we had troubles in organizing [we] have finally triumphed—and in reality, we haven't had difficulties such as we [will] have to overcome later in life. . . .



"Gladys Bruce, another of our very first charter members, summed up our aims under A. Helen Clark gave a toast to Evelyn Callicutt for 'the inspiration she has given those of us who met her on her first visit,' while Gladys McKelvey gave a toast to Martha McIntosh 'in appreciation of the wonderful help she gave us during our organization.' This led us to two songs which Norris Stanley wrote."

Successfully launched, pridefully conscious of their shining new shields, on Sunday afternoon they "held open house for the faculty and student body of Butler. That is when we underwent inspection," they said, "and our beautiful pins were certainly admired."

Weeks after, Esther Renfrew wrote, "we are still living in the clouds." Thus Zeta Tau Alpha came to Butler University.

ALPHA EPSILON: In a year the next chapter was placed in a western state—Colorado. And different indeed was the local organization's approach to its membership.

Organized at Denver University in the fall of 1918, the Styx Club was primarily a correspondence club of three girls. Tresa Snyder (Thaw), Edna Jones and Helene Mix (Sherman) had not accepted invitations from other women's fraternities because of their intention to attend another university the following year. However, when their plans changed and they stayed in Denver, they formed a club solely for the purpose of friendship. Soon they increased their number to twelve.

In the fall of 1920, the Styx Club took the name of Sigma Tau Upsilon Chi, "spelling the Styx in Greek," they explained. After petitioning and receiving faculty permission to become an officially recognized group, ΣΤΥΧ was admitted to Panhellenic. But before this they were approached by one of the Denver nationals with the proposition to "take them in as a body." They felt "that the ΣΤΥΧ members were strong and would be invaluable to their organization," Clara Lee (Cary) wrote later. However, even before that, Zeta Tau Alpha had been considering Denver University as an ideal location for a chapter that would be a link between its eastern and western chapters, and through a Kappa Delta contact, Zeta learned of Sigma Tau Upsilon Chi, which was highly recommended by the Denver Kappa Deltas.

Sigma Tau Upsilon Chi was intrigued by Zeta Tau Alpha's letter, "even though they were highly flattered by the invitation of the other national." Were they interested in becoming a chapter of a national "on their own?" Zeta asked. Their response was to vote unanimously to petition Zeta Tau Alpha, and straightway, under the leadership of the president, Clara Lee (Cary), "negotiations between Zeta Tau Alpha and Sigma Tau Upsilon Chi got under way."

The Grand Historian, Gladys Ayland (Glade), made the inspection visit in February, 1921, returning a few months later for formal installation of the

chapter on May 2. "Miss Ayland arrived Sunday morning," Mabel Leininger wrote. "Pledging took place soon afterward. Margret Bostic (Alcott) and Veva Boeke, both of Sigma chapter, came about noon. In the afternoon we went motoring, returning later for luncheon. The evening was spent singing Zeta songs.

"Monday we all went to the university. Our fraternity examination was given in the evening. The next and most eventful day was that of initiation."

That initiation took place at the home of Emma and Ella Linke, with Mrs. Glade as the installing officer, assisted by the two girls who came from Kansas, not too far away, but not too near, either. Additional assistants were Helen Enge (Marshall), Sigma; Beulah Baird (Eaton), Xi; Rosetta Bankwitz (Hayes), Rho, and Elizabeth Thomas (Wilson), Delta.

The eleven who became charter members were: Clara Lee (Cary), Arlie Riddleberger, Tresa Snyder (Thaw), Dorothy Smith (Hartley), Mabel Leininger (Stanley), Ella Linke (Williams), Emma Linke (Schmednecht), Edna Jones, Erva Riches (Walker), Maude Thompson (Prefontaine) and Ann Riddell (Anderson). Helen Mix (Sherman), Christine Dodson (Reynolds), Esther McKibben (Marr) and Sarah Rodda (Gast), who were unable to be present at the time of installation, were initiated later that summer.

That night—"Tuesday evening we had our wonderful banquet in the Red Room of the Brown Palace Hotel. The table was decorated with roses and carnations and looked beautiful" and Alpha Epsilon wished "you might all have been with us."

Zeta Tau Alpha was the sixth national organization for women to enter the University of Denver.

ALPHA ZETA: Brimming over with growth and the unmatched enthusiasm of charter members was the year 1921, when the unprecedented number of eight chapters were added to Zeta Tau Alpha's mounting chapter roll. Second in the 1921 series was the first chapter to be established in Ohio—Alpha Zeta.

More specifically, Alpha Zeta chapter was installed at Ohio State University, on May 30, 1921, the thirteenth national fraternity on the campus. The group did not adopt a name prior to installation for the simple reason that they did not need one under the circumstances. Their transitional state was just that. They had banded together for the express purpose of becoming a chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha.

Introducing themselves in *Themis*, Mary J. Wright went back to "early last winter [1920], when three of us had a fudge party and discussed our plans for getting a chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha established on the Ohio State University campus. This was the beginning of our enthusiastic work."

Leaving the fudge route which merely continued along the same delectable line, they "at once started to have a few informal parties, such as taffy pulls, spreads and afternoon teas, and soon found five more girls who were just as much interested as we were."

They considered themselves "indeed lucky [when] Miss Ethel C. Scofield, head of the department of physical education" became one of their members.

Losing no time and promptly attending to the necessary details, they "sent their petition in February and the next month" they were elated with "the grand news that they were to have a visit from the President—Alpha Burkart." Zeta's President was already theirs, even though they were just in the petitioning stage. "Of course," they exclaimed, "we were just as excited as could be when we heard that the President of Zeta Tau Alpha was coming to see us."

Told to expect a telegram telling just what hour she would arrive in Columbus on April 13, they probably understated their mental and nervous state when they wrote that "you can imagine how excited we were when two o'clock came that afternoon and we had not heard from her. We had planned a reception for that afternoon." Something had to be done so they "started to call up the hotels in town." They found the missing President. "She had sent a telegram, but it never reached us."

Their resilience was exemplary. "We certainly had an enjoyable time during the two days she spent with us," they concluded, on an "all's well that ends well" note.

When Helen Donaldson, the Grand Secretary, arrived a few weeks later for installation, "this time we again had a terrible time to find our national officer, because Miss Donaldson missed the train on which we were expecting her to arrive." But again everything ended well for the Ohio girls and the formal ceremonies were held at the Chittenden Hotel on May 30, 1921. Assisting Miss Donaldson were Pearl Reed, Helen Schmucker (Fry), Anne Barron (Fowler) and Elizabeth Lewis (Flint), from Chi chapter.

Alpha Zeta's charter members were: Olive Taylor (Brumbaugh), Lucille Mercer, Cecilia Gilday (Teichert), Ethel Scofield, Jeanette Heagy (Justice), Jeanette Jones (Clair), Pearl McGlashan (Hoffman), Mildred Fisher (Marple) and Mary Wright. They also pledged "three splendid girls: Constance Reid, Aleen McConahy of Cleveland and Treva Mae Allen of Ravenna." Treva Mae Allen (Seepe) was their first pledge and a later-day national officer.

At the installation banquet, which was held at the Chittenden Hotel, the program pattern differed from the customary plan. "Instead of having regular toasts, the girls gave heart-to-heart talks. Afterwards, we sang and danced for a little while, and just as we were beginning to realize that we were really Zeta Tau Alphas, the Chi girls had to leave for home."

Alpha Zeta had come into being, and their dreams had been realized, but



they did not fail to comprehend what lay before them. "As we were installed just at the end of the college year, we are really only now beginning our work on the campus as Zeta Tau Alphas," they wrote.

ALPHA ETA: A second chapter in Ohio was in the making when, on October 27, 1918, three freshman girls, Marion Farbach, Greta Rueckert and Erma Elberg met for the purpose of forming a local society at the University of Cincinnati. Later they added three of their friends, Florence Foerster (Goepp), Doretta Pfeiffer (Sippel) and Elizabeth Roberts (Bumiller).

That was, however, merely their start at the University of Cincinnati, for their petition to Zeta Tau Alpha told of a prior period. The three actually founded the organization "on December 27, 1917, at the residence of Marion Farbach . . . during the senior year of its members at Hughes High school, for the purpose of forming a closer union among them. In the fall of 1918, the members entered the University of Cincinnati. . . ."

Purely a case of personal friendship and association at the start, it was a case of "so far so good," for there was never a thought of becoming a recognized local, or of becoming part of a national organization. But the six took a Greek name—Sigma Omega Sigma—and in their sophomore year they continued to meet secretly. Then it was suggested that the group make themselves known on the campus and eventually petition a national organization. No doubt this suggestion was influenced by the fact that new nationals were entering the University of Cincinnati at that time.

They moved carefully, however, and after a year's consideration Sigma Omega Sigma selected Zeta Tau Alpha. Zeta's standards appealed to them, they said, so they wrote to Ida Shaw Martin for further information. When that information came, they were sure of their choice. The petition was sent on February 15, 1921. Early in the spring, Sigma Omega Sigma was officially recognized as a local sorority and took its place in the local Panhellenic Association.

"It was Miss Burkart, the Grand President, who inspected us in April," wrote Elizabeth Roberts, "and through her we learned of the fine things for which Zeta stood." Gratified, "we felt like patting ourselves on the back, knowing that we had chosen so wisely." The actual date of inspection was April 21.

The inspecting officer found that Sigma Omega Sigma was "unusually strong in organization," with officers' books that were "orderly and businesslike." She was impressed with the secretary's book which "contained a complete history of their organization, colors, a coat-of-arms, with symbols, and a pin. They wear these pins," she reported. They also had "a unique scrapbook" which attracted her attention. And they had high grades.

The chapter's glow of pride was still high when, "on May 7, our secretary received word that we had been granted a charter on May 6, and that installation would take place sometime in June. It was fortunate that our old local was

holding a meeting that afternoon, so that every one of us could let ourselves go," their *Themis* story recounted. "It seemed almost a dream that we were really going to be incorporated into Zeta Tau Alpha, a fraternity which we knew had the highest ideals and aims.

"From May 7 to June 18, we were busy planning for installation and studying for final examinations. Chapter letters, congratulating us, began to fly in . . . how wonderful it was to be greeted! Finally, our installation date was set for June 18; Helen Donaldson was coming on the sixteenth, and five guests from Alpha Delta on the seventeenth."

The night of the National Secretary's arrival "she pledged seven girls: Erma Elberg, Elizabeth Roberts, Marion Farbach, Gladys Colyer, Greta Rueckert, Doretta Pfeiffer and Etta Elberg, at the Elbergs' residence. The steel gray and turquoise blue pins made each of us feel that never before had a greater chain of friendship come into our lives. We were beginning to learn what it was to be Zetas. . . . Our other charter member was not pledged with us, but Helen Donaldson performed the service later, for it was impossible for Florence Goepp to go through installation with us at that time." The issue of *Themis* printing Alpha Eta's first pictures included one of Florence Goepp and her brand-new baby.

The next day, "when Marion Farbach met Esther Heuss, Naomi Baker, Gladys McKelvey, Gladys Bruce and Louise Duncan, who came from Indianapolis," the occasion was "getting nicer and nicer," the Cincinnati girls said. "All afternoon they sang Zeta songs to us, and told us of Zeta. . . . That evening Betty Roberts gave a little dinner for the visiting Zetas, and after that each charter member took her fraternity examination."

Following a luncheon given by the Elbergs, the installation ceremonies began early Saturday afternoon, June 18. Thus the formal installation date of Alpha Eta was listed as June 16-20, 1921. Helen M. Donaldson, Grand Secretary, officiated. She was assisted by five Alpha Deltas: Gladys Bruce, Louise Duncan, Gladys McKelvey (Jacobsen), Naomi Baker (Lyda) and Esther Heuss (Cline).

In Alpha Eta's own words, "Helen Donaldson put through seven girls, who were as happy as kings when it was all over." Again, special dispensation was made for Florence Goepp, and Alpha Eta's charter members were: Marion Farbach, Doretta Pfeiffer (Sippel), Greta Rueckert, Elizabeth Roberts (Bumiller), Florence Foerster (Goepp), Gladys Colyer and Erma Elberg. Zeta Tau Alpha became the ninth national organization for women on the campus.

The banquet, "given at Doretta's . . . was very informal. Erma Elberg, the new president, presided over the toasts." Her "short address . . . voiced the thoughts of each girl," their happiness in being Zetas. After Miss Donaldson had spoken, Gladys McKelvey assured them that Alpha Delta would always be glad to help them. Then, on a changing note, "Marion Farbach . . . known

for her funny sayings, related a series of ridiculous remarks that the girls had made from time to time." With Elizabeth Roberts' closing toast to "Themis, the Oracle" came the oracular prophecy that Alpha Eta was bound to prosper. "All hail to thee, Alpha Eta! All hail to thee, Zeta Tau Alpha!" With that they ended the banquet.

"Then came the installation dance at the country home of Marion's uncle. And with everyone with just the right man, glorious moonlight filtering through the big trees and delicious food, the dance couldn't help being a success."

There was a Sunday dinner "at Greta's." Monday morning's picnic at Fort Thomas made an impression. "Will anyone ever forget what a stylish affair it was at that restaurant?"

With the departure of the Indianapolis Zetas that evening, and the installing officer soon after, Zeta Tau Alpha's second chapter in the state of Ohio began its career as a national organization.

ALPHA THETA: Not until 1915 were chapters of women's national fraternities established at Purdue University, in Lafayette, Indiana. Kappa Alpha Theta installed a chapter that year, followed by Alpha Chi Omega in 1918. Kappa Kappa Gamma and Chi Omega placed chapters in 1919. Pi Beta Phi, Alpha Xi Delta and Zeta Tau Alpha came on the campus in 1921. Back of Zeta's Alpha Theta chapter lay an unusual story.

As a local organization the group that became Alpha Theta chapter began life with four members: Nelle Pfleeger (Elliott), Eva Hudlow, Helen Merriman and Florence Reis (Spaulding). The four organized at the suggestion of the dean of women, for the need of another organization at Purdue was keenly felt.

At that time a teacher in the public schools, a member of a local organization at Butler University, offered to live with the girls and organize them as the second chapter of the Butler local. The understanding was that the two groups would use the same pins, and petition the same national. Under this arrangement the girls rented a house and began active rushing. Their flower was the daisy, and their colors were yellow and white.

In the spring of 1919, the group was recognized by the faculty and took its place on the campus. In the meantime the matter of petitioning a national was being considered with the Butler organization, but after much correspondence it was found that the ideas of the two groups were irreconcilable. It seemed best for them to work out their destinies separately. The Purdue group then severed connections with the Butler chapter, and adopted the name of Phi Zeta. The following year, they recorded, "we spent a large part of our time discussing nationals, without coming to any conclusion."

In the spring of 1921, upon the recommendation of the Houston Alumnæ, they communicated with Zeta Tau Alpha. Receiving an encouraging reply,



they bent all their efforts toward securing a charter. Their petition also stated that they became interested through "recommendations given by girls who had attended colleges where there were Zeta chapters" and "because of the progressiveness of Zeta Tau Alpha." Later that spring the Grand Secretary arrived to inspect Phi Zeta. Then they settled down to a period of waiting. In due time the news came. The charter was granted near the close of the college year and installation was planned for the fall.

On September 10, 1921, twenty-four charter members were initiated at the chapter house on Waldron Street in West Lafayette. Helen Donaldson, Grand Secretary, who returned to install Alpha Theta, was assisted by thirteen representatives from Alpha Delta, Alpha Zeta and Alpha Eta. Initiated at that time were Vesta Archer (Osborn), Helen Powell (Patt), Rosemarie Thomas (Ross), Fern Wright (Fowler), Krin English (Hoch), Nellie Pfleeger (Elliott), Lois Michael (Netterhouse), Arveda Rumble (Wagner), Helen Mitchell (Miller), Dorothy Irvin, Mayme Stuart (Wiley), Erma Yost (Stinson), Mary Hastings (Ritter), Florence Reis (Spaulding), Helen Merriman, Sarah Rogers (Dresser), Edna Wien (Moore), Helen Boulds (Tipton), Eva Hudlow (Rush) and Effie Squires (Kenyon). Later, four other charter members were initiated: Maroe Fouts (Thornburg), Dorothy Million (Bergdall), Doris Dunkerly (Beecher) and Letha Winks (Skinner).

One must visualize the initiation banquet held Saturday night, for "it was a real gathering of sisters—not a formal affair, but one at which we became closer friends," Alpha Theta told the Zeta world through *Themis*. Great was their pleasure in having the visiting Zetas from nearby chapters. "We shall always have a warm spot in our hearts for these three chapters . . .," they wrote.

By their count, "twenty girls in all were initiated, eleven of whom compose the active chapter, the remaining nine being alumnae and ex-students." Then giving a picture of life at the new Zeta house, "we form quite a jolly company in the evenings when we dance, or gather about the open fire," they said.

Alpha Theta was the thirty-third link in the Zeta chain, and the second chapter in the state of Indiana.

ALPHA IOTA: Zeta Omega, the local sorority that became Alpha Iota chapter, was founded in February, 1921. It was the direct outgrowth of a need for more groups at Lawrence College, at a time when increasing enrollment and a chapter limitation of twenty-five members made the existing groups inadequate to absorb the many eligible and highly desirable girls who were thus deprived of a desired affiliation they would otherwise enjoy.

After Mildred Schlafke, one of Kappa Delta's province presidents, approached Genevieve Geiger and Dorcas Jacka (Morton) about the possibility of forming a local sorority, the two key girls "thought it over and gathered together ten more girls." At the first meeting on February 19, officers were elected

and plans were discussed. The faculty not only approved but encouraged the formation of the much-needed new group, and "on the same day [they] received the hearty approval of the college president and faculty." A committee drew up a constitution and ritual before the next meeting, at which they elected two representatives to the local Panhellenic. After that they "held regular meetings which were conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order."

The charter members were: Genevieve Geiger, Dorcas Jacka (Morton), Gwyneth Gribble (Johnson), Laurinda Hampton, Florence Knuth (McKnight), Helene Mandelert (Hottinger), Charlotte Braatz (Hall), Nan Buzzard (Zimmerman), Gertrude Davis (Peterson) and Olga Smith.

In the chapter's short span of local existence there was time for only a tea for their patronesses, but the girls had a full social schedule, for when Zeta Omega was announced, "every national on the campus welcomed them with some kind of a party."

From the beginning, Zeta Omega planned to affiliate with a national fraternity. Through Mildred Schlafke, who coached and guided them in organizing, they became interested in Zeta Tau Alpha, and accordingly, it was to Zeta Tau Alpha that they applied. The Grand Secretary, Helen M. Donaldson, arrived for an inspection visit in May, 1921, and soon after the group received word of a charter grant.

Following summer vacation, Miss Donaldson returned to Appleton where, on September 24, 1921, she formally installed Alpha Iota chapter. The charter members were the original members of Zeta Omega except Clair Calkins, Judith Overby and the first pledge, Eva Johnson. The period of Zeta Omega's short local existence was unparalleled on the Lawrence campus; indeed, few locals of such brief duration had successfully petitioned Zeta Tau Alpha. But Zeta Omega was a hand-picked, exceptionally well-organized group that had the tutelage of a skilled hand.

Zeta Tau Alpha was the sixth national fraternity for women at Lawrence College, and it was the fraternity's first installation in the state of Wisconsin.

**ALPHA KAPPA:** Moving into one of the country's largest universities, Zeta Tau Alpha went on the campus of the University of Illinois during the brilliant administration of Dr. David Kinley. It was a golden era in the history of the university and its aim was clearly set forth by Dr. Kinley, when he said that "the prime function of the University of Illinois is to prepare the young men and women of the state for citizenship in the large sense—life in human society. The university seeks to preserve the democratic ideals of this nation's founders through the provision of higher education for all. It strives to assist democracy through the training of leaders."

In that friendly and fine atmosphere, Zeta Tau Alpha was privileged to place its next chapter, the second in the state.

Although early correspondence contains many references to the desirability of a chapter at the University of Illinois, and the cordiality with which the fraternity leaders would have welcomed one, it was not until 1921 that a move crystallized. And again the story centered around a personal friendship—this time between a dean of women and a lone member of Zeta Tau Alpha on the Illinois campus.

Alpha Kappa's beginning dates back to the founding of Dacia House, on January 13, 1920, "for the purpose of organizing the girls living at 1115 West Illinois Street, Urbana, for better cooperation." However, that purpose was accomplished so successfully that a few months later permission was granted for the group to take the name of Chi Delta.

Chi Delta's charter members were: Fay Harris (Spencer), Lurena Perrine (Allen), Gladys Trager (McInnis), Hazel Ann Erlandson, Hazel McGraw (Jackson), Olive Makeever (McBurney), Pauline Wolgast, Helene Butterfield, Lucy Woods, Rosamond Meeks (Tracy), Gladys Kennedy (Johns), Inez Andren, Jean Makeever (McCurdy), Ruth Wolgast (Croll), Ruth Wolf and Emily Kennedy (Seitz).

During this time the group not only stood high scholastically but it was recorded, not without pride, that "they also had a very good basketball team."

The times were prosperous if not affluent. Illinois' enrollment had shot up tremendously after the war, and the number of young women desiring fraternity affiliation was larger than ever before. Swift-moving was the scene in the 1920's, and it was typical that the recently organized group soon found itself ready for the next step.

When, in the spring of 1921, they decided to seek affiliation with a national organization, they sought the counsel of the dean of women, Miss Ruby E. C. Mason, who was a close friend of Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Tau. Knowing that Zeta Tau Alpha was Shirley Kreasan's fraternity, but knowing nothing further about the organization, Dean Mason made her recommendation on the sole basis of her evaluation of the one member she knew. Chi Delta accepted that recommendation and Rosamond Meeks (Tracy) and Lucy Woods were the two representatives who went to call on Mrs. Strout. Thus, the friendship existing between the dean of women and an individual member of the fraternity was responsible for Zeta Tau Alpha's Illinois chapter.

Events moved swiftly following that official call when Chi Delta's case was laid before Miss Mason's friend, who, in turn, wholeheartedly accepted the dean's recommendation of the group. Convinced that this was an ideal situation for Zeta Tau Alpha, the following days saw official red tape rather completely shredded.

Knowing that Helen Donaldson was somewhere in the Middle West and headed toward Tau, through telephone calls to Ohio and other points, the Secretary was finally located and convinced of the advisability of visiting



Champaign as the personal guest of the by-now Chi Delta's sponsor. Although a somewhat unorthodox reversal of procedure, the alert traveling officer nevertheless agreed upon the wisdom of the course.

The suddenness of the development gave the visiting officer no time to observe the usual preliminary formalities or to go through the usual procedure. But realizing its propitiousness, her own fortunate proximity to Illinois, and the nearness of the closing of the college year, she proceeded to Champaign *sans* official sanction. Her subsequent celebrity-name-studded inspection report observed that things were not usually done that way, but what she had to report completely justified the cutting of the red tape. Among the names in the report were those of Dr. Kinley and Dean Thomas Arkle Clark, university and fraternity greats of their day. There could have been but one outcome. A charter was granted.

On October 24, 1921, Chi Delta was installed as Alpha Kappa chapter by Alpha Burkart (Wettach), the President, and Miss Donaldson, assisted by Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Tau; Beulah Armstrong, Sigma; and members of Tau chapter. Alpha Kappa's charter members were: Alta Ruth Hahn, Margaret Strohm (Nye), Ruth Lawton (Schrader), Louise Joyner (Hienton), Fay Harris (Spencer), Lurena Perrine (Allen), Gladys Brown, Gladys Trager (McInnis), Lucy Woods, Rosamond Meeks (Tracy), Grace Woosley (Schedel), Inez Andren, Jean Makeever (McCurdy), Hazel Ann Erlandson, Hazel McGraw (Jackson), Ruth Wolgast (Croll), Gladys Kennedy (Johns) and Clara Tanner (McCormack). The ceremonies were held at the chapter house.

Shirley Kreasan Strout was the toastmistress for the "formal installation banquet which was held at the Hotel Inman at six o'clock. A six-course dinner was served. The tables were decorated with pink roses and a color scheme of pink and lavender was carried out. Toasts were given by Miss Burkart and Miss Donaldson; Hazel Perry, Tau; Beulah Armstrong, Sigma; and Fay Harris, Alpha Kappa. An orchestra played during the dinner hour. Gladys Kennedy, Alpha Kappa, also played . . . between courses."

Four hundred guests were entertained at the Tuesday afternoon reception for faculty and university women, the concluding installation event, which was also held at the chapter house. In the receiving line were Miss Burkart, Miss Donaldson, Mrs. Strout; Mrs. James Franklin Wilson and Mrs. Harriet Sweet, patronesses; Dr. Armstrong; Adeline Mattes (Koch), Tau; Rosamond Meeks (Tracy), Alpha Kappa; and Mrs. Elizabeth Faust, housemother.

In order of entrance, Zeta Tau Alpha was the seventeenth national fraternity for women at Illinois, which, at that time, had a "greater number of chapters of national organizations than any other university in the United States."

**ALPHA LAMBDA:** Many years had elapsed since the fraternity had placed a chapter in its mother state, but this decade saw Zeta Tau Alpha establish its

Alpha Lambda chapter at a college that was well known to the Founders. It came about after a new group was formed at Hollins College, in Hollins, Virginia.

Sigma Alpha, a local, was founded in March, 1921, when the Hollins Panhellenic felt the need of another fraternity and chose three students to be entrusted with the work of organization. Gladys Byrd Harrison, Blanche Wilson and René Massey, all of Richmond, Virginia, were the three selected.

Upon the three fell "the details of drawing up a constitution, writing a ritual as well as the pledge and initiation services, selecting a badge and choosing the colors and flower. With this preliminary work completed, they began to bid others to membership.

"Local Panhellenic granted Sigma Alpha permission to tell its plans to the students who were bid, [thus] greatly facilitating the way of a new organization since it was helpful for everyone to know that our new chapter had the sanction and support of the other fraternities at Hollins. Before May our number had grown to thirteen members and by then we felt that we were strong enough to petition for a charter from a national fraternity," the girls wrote.

"Because so many Sigma Alphas had friends who belonged to Zeta Tau Alpha and because they knew it was such a strong fraternity, it was unanimously voted . . . to petition Zeta." Then "Miss Donaldson sent instructions to us. Our recommendations and scrapbook passed national inspection and we were notified of the acceptance of our petition. . . ."

Frances Stiles, Alpha Gamma, inspected the group. "Fall was the tentative date set for installation. Delays, however, prevented [it] from taking place until the second week in December."

On December 10, 1921, the National Inspector, Evelyn Callicutt, assisted by Delta chapter, installed Alpha Lambda, the seventh national fraternity at this college for women. The charter members were: Gladys Byrd Harrison, Blanche Peele Wilson (James), René Massey (Kelley), Lillian Harrison (Bolich), Elizabeth Barclay Moon, Gladys Clifton Smallridge, Eleanor Spruill (Jobes), Elizabeth Rhodes (Adams), Helen Louise Taylor (Bridges), Frances Warren, Mary Wood Whitehurst, Dorothy Clark (Poer), Mary Fauntleroy (Riggs), Rebecca Gresham (Hendon), Virginia Long (Anderson) and Mozelle Myers (Fairer). And Alpha Lambda thought that "it was very interesting that the biggest sister chapter should install the littlest sister and that both chapters should be in Virginia where Zeta was founded.

"There was a lovely banquet on Saturday evening, after which formal installation took place." They mentioned Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Walker, two *alumnæ* "from Salem, who came for part of the service." The Randolph-Macon Zetas who were there were Nan Thornton, Nelle Simpson and Grace Sheffey, *alumnæ*; and Mary Puffer (Wilmot), Helen Simpson, Julia Candler (McQuillen),

Louise Huffines (Gaither), Mildred Bedell and Elizabeth Lesesne (Collins), from the college chapter.

The new chapter was situated in the Shenandoah Valley, seven miles north of Roanoke, "tucked into a cove of the Blue Ridge Mountains and all the mountainsides are the campus."

ALPHA MU: Motivated by their desire to have a college on the prairies that would continue the traditions of their greatly admired Yale and Harvard, the founding fathers of Washburn College (originally named Lincoln College), incorporated their own college in Kansas as "an institution of learning of high literary and religious character . . . which shall commemorate the triumph of liberty over slavery in our nation and afford to all classes without distinction of color the advantages of a liberal education." That was in 1865 and the War Between the States was just over.

The college in the prairies, at Topeka, Kansas, became the home of Alpha Mu chapter many years later, when there were just three other national fraternities for women on the campus.

It started during the Christmas vacation of 1919, when Louise Herrick and Marguerite McDonald (Wyman) decided that the time was right for another group at Washburn. The idea proving sound, their plans for a local group were perfected under the direction of Professor Gunthorp and Mrs. Gunthorp, invaluable counselors. The faculty granted a charter on March 12, 1920, to Pi Beta Tau, and the group was immediately recognized by the local Panhellenic.

"There were sixteen charter members," they wrote, "and three more were pledged and initiated before the close of school. In the fall of 1920 everyone was surprised that we were located in a chapter house."

They "got along remarkably well all that year." However, no real thought was given to petitioning a national fraternity until Margret Bostic (Alcott) and Veva Boeke were Louise Herrick's guests at the Pi Beta Tau house in the fall of 1920. They were en route to their homes from the installation of Alpha Epsilon at Denver University, and they captivated the Topeka girls. They "began to think about nationals" and they decided to petition Zeta Tau Alpha "because of the charm of these two girls from Sigma chapter, and because of the aims and ideals of the fraternity which they represented."

With tireless enthusiasm, and in the face of very real difficulties, Louise Herrick encouraged the girls to work toward their ideal and to her, more than to any other one person, the chapter owed its success. In June, 1921, the petition was sent. Then they "waited anxiously to hear the results." The months went by.

The following October, Evelyn Callicutt, the National Inspector, arrived in Topeka for an inspection visit. The well-organized group qualified and they were recommended for a charter grant. The telegram announcing that grant



reached them the night before Christmas "and on New Year's eve we had an announcement party at the home of Elspey Schwartz, Sigma."

Not until March, though, did an officer arrive to induct Pi Beta Tau into Zeta Tau Alpha. But on March 2, Helen M. Donaldson pledged thirty-two girls. Two days later, on March 4, 1922, Pi Beta Tau was formally installed as Alpha Mu chapter by Miss Donaldson, Grand Secretary, assisted by five members from Mu and twenty-six from Sigma—the entire chapter. The Drury Zetas made the trip from Springfield, Missouri, while Sigma's Kansas home was not far from Topeka and the chapter arrived *en masse*. After all, Sigma had had a special interest in this chapter all along.

The charter members were: Ruth Bailey (Stinson), Esther Grandon (Kingman), Ruth Grandon, Mildred LaBarrer (Morgan), Sadie Yetter (Simmons), Nettie Pfaff (Butcher), Wilma Trull (Gray), Esther Watson (Jackson), Verna Wise (Embleton), Marguerite McDonald (Wyman), Josephine Merillat (Blanc), Jane Lannan, Eva McClaskey, Helen Steele, Edna Noll (Passman), Grace Ellington, Dorothy Adams (Morrisey), Mildred Brown (Hatcher), Alberta Rosen (Hillyer), Dorothy Shuler (Hart), Vernon Woods (Jester), Mary Eells (Richmond), Lona Hoag (Smith), Margaret Lovewell (Griffith), Marguerite LaBarrer (Hibler), Sylvianna Maxwell (Collicott) and Alice Noll (Ehrhart).

"We were pledged Thursday night," the chapter said, then "on Friday a number of girls came from Drury and Baker and that evening we had a lovely party at the Elks Club. Saturday we spent the day and part of the night being initiated." The installing officer especially mentioned the installation dance at the Elks Club, which "was charming in every detail."

With gratification they reported that "Zeta Tau Alpha was welcomed by every fraternity at Washburn. All of them sent notes to Pi Beta Tau as soon as the charter grant was announced and these, along with those received from other Zeta chapters, hold a proud place in the chapter memory book already well started. On Sunday afternoon Delta Gamma was at home to the new chapter and its guests."

Before she left, the installing officer had conferences with the president of the college, the dean of women and various members of the faculty, "all of whom expressed their faith in the ability of the new chapter. . . ."

ALPHA NU:\* Birmingham-Southern College came into existence in 1918, when, in order "to form a greater institution for the promotion of the education of the sons and daughters of our glorious South," Southern University joined with Birmingham College.

\* Since both Alpha Nu and Alpha Xi were installed in the same year, the correct order according to the Greek alphabet is here observed, although Alpha Xi was installed some months before Alpha Nu. Somewhat similar to the cases of Psi and Omega, the Greek names were allotted at this time in order of their priority of charter grant rather than by date of installation.

Just two years after that consolidation six girls, whose aims were "friendship and high scholarship," formed Sigma Beta Gamma on November 6, 1920. The six founders were Marjorie Craig, Myrtle Painter, Pauline Sanders (Gardner), Mary Corley, Lou Sloan and Elizabeth Crumley.

"The first meeting, held in one of the classrooms, was a most enthusiastic one. The girls all worked together and in a few weeks we were well organized and felt that some definite plans should be made, for which to work. Meanwhile four new girls were taken in, and we secured a room on the campus."

Progress was so marked that in the spring of 1921 they began to consider petitioning a national fraternity. As they put it, "everything went smoothly and we got along so nicely that we began to think about petitioning a national fraternity immediately." Not unexpectedly, their choice fell on Zeta Tau Alpha, for they already knew Alabama Zetas. In fact, they "were all very much interested in Zeta Tau Alpha, knowing quite a few girls in Nu chapter."

Sigma Beta Gamma made the necessary approach and inquiries. Soon they had the petition blanks and "were very much interested in working up a petition." It was "sent to Grand Chapter about the first of March, 1921." Some time later the Birmingham petitioners were considerably heartened to hear from the National Secretary that Grand Chapter had received a favorable letter from Delta chapter, at Randolph-Macon Woman's College. "Of course, this was very encouraging."

When college opened in the fall "the number of girls on the campus was double that of the year before. Five new girls were taken into our organization." But "in the meantime, we were anxiously waiting for some word." At last it came. "Miss Evelyn Callicutt, the National Inspector, was on her way to pay us a visit." They greatly enjoyed her four-day stay, but for three months after she left, they "half-anticipated, half-dreaded to hear the result." Then on March 27, 1922, a welcome telegram carried the glad tidings that "a charter had been granted us. The town hardly held us after that, we were so happy!"

When word came in September that installation would take place "either the next week-end or the week-end following," Marjorie Craig was certain that "I don't believe we were ever as excited as we were when we heard that Miss Callicutt was coming back. . . . We all got down to work then and . . . planned for our initiation and installation."

She arrived on Thursday, October 5, and "pledge services were held that night in our room, the girls from Nu chapter . . . assisting. The next day was spent in discussions and examinations." They "had learned the answers to the questions sent [them] every way imaginable until we could almost recite the chapter roll backward. We were excused from classes for that day and the next, so when we had completed the examination we felt that we had done a day's work. All of us passed, thank goodness!"

Time-consuming as the examination appeared to be, no spirits were dampened for enjoyment of the "Lyric party with supper and dancing afterwards" which ended the day. They had something to add, though. "Now this is a secret!" they unsecretively confided in *Themis*. "We all wondered whether Miss Callicutt danced!" They found out. "Not only does she dance," they declared, "but [she] was quite the most popular girl there. The A T Ωs sent her a corsage and everyone agreed that no one could ask for a better all-around fraternity officer."

But the night's festivities did not prevent them from being up bright and early. Starting the day was a meeting at which "Miss Callicutt told us something of the wonderful organization of Zeta Tau Alpha."

On Saturday afternoon, October 7, 1922, Evelyn Callicutt, assisted by Edith Allen, Louise Hernandez (Scott), Ollie Davis (Fitchett) and Marianne Lusk, from Nu chapter, initiated the charter members of Alpha Nu and installed the chapter. The nine who were initiated in the ceremonies held at the home of Ruth Williams (Anderson), on St. Charles Street, were Ruth Williams (Anderson), Susie Rosamond, Miriam Milner (Snuggs), Catherine Williams, Marjorie Craig (Churchill), Pauline Sanders (Gardner), Eloise Sanders (Hancock), Margaret Strange (Hawkins) and Josephine Hawkins (Smith).

They found the services "wonderful, impressive, dignified and beautiful beyond words. [It] far surpassed our expectations and every one of us thanked our lucky stars that we had the honor of being Zeta Tau Alphas . . . from then on we would give our best to our fraternity and strive to be loyal Zetas above all, first, last and always," Marjorie Craig promised.

The day was climaxed by a supper party, then the next afternoon the new chapter gave an informal tea for the alumnæ in Birmingham. "We met quite a few Zetas that afternoon, and several old friends called." After "another chapter meeting" the next day, Alpha Nu held an afternoon open house in their room for the Birmingham-Southern men's and women's fraternities. "This was the first chance Miss Callicutt had to talk to our freshmen, for we had closed rushing this year and we were not able to invite our freshmen to a single party," they explained.

The following afternoon "the Tau Delta sorority entertained us with a lovely formal tea. Everything was carried out in turquoise blue and grey." This concluded the installation festivities. "Wednesday was spent in business and resting, then on Thursday Miss Callicutt left . . ."

But Alpha Nu still had a debt to acknowledge, and this they did through *Themis*. "Alpha Nu chapter," they wrote, "wishes to thank Nu chapter . . . for the love and cooperation that they have given us from the very first. They were thoughtful in every way, not leaving a thing that they could possibly do for us undone, and they have taken us to their hearts as true sisters."

With harmony and cooperation existing between the two Alabama chapters,



Alpha Nu took its place as the first national fraternity for women at Birmingham-Southern. For many years Zeta Tau Alpha was the only national organization there.

ALPHA XI: The next chapter story shifted to the fraternity-studded state of Indiana, when Zeta Tau Alpha placed its Alpha Xi chapter at the state university in Bloomington.

To Mrs. William L. Loudon of Bloomington, then a province president of Kappa Kappa Gamma, Alpha Xi owes its existence. It was she who saw the need of another women's organization at Indiana University, and felt that Zeta Tau Alpha could fill that need. Eloquent was Nina McAllister's summation when she said that Mrs. Loudon "inaugurated the movement, gave us wonderful backing, a splendid organization, and a good start on the right path. If we succeed, our success will be due to her influence and work—if we fail, our failure will be due to our negligence in carrying out her well worked-out plan.

"A great man once said that the real people of this earth are those who not only dream but who also make their dreams come true. Mrs. Loudon had a vision: She saw the need of more women's fraternities at Indiana University, she saw good fraternity material going to waste and she saw that Zeta Tau Alpha should have a place on the campus. . . . She had the courage of her convictions, the desire to make others happy, and she was willing to give both of herself and her time. . . ."

The group that was to petition Zeta Tau Alpha was organized by Mrs. Loudon in December, 1921. Her plan was laid before the prospective petitioners just before the Christmas holidays. Each girl on the list was recommended by some prominent person on the campus, and the recommendation was verified by other campus officials. On December 17, at a tea given in her home, the formal invitation to join the group was presented to each hand-picked girl. At the January 3, 1922 meeting, officers were elected and patronesses chosen.

The patronesses chosen through the wisdom of the sponsor were Mrs. J. B. Wilson, Mrs. Robert Lyons, Mrs. James A. Woodburn, Mrs. B. F. Adams, Mrs. W. J. Moenkhaus and Mrs. R. E. O'Brien. These invaluable friends were of inestimable assistance to the new group, and they played a prominent part in its earliest days. Mrs. Loudon, of course, was both counselor and patroness.

Four more girls were selected at another tea held at Mrs. Loudon's on January 13, bringing the number of charter members up to twelve. They were: Doyne Trout Koonce (Garst), Caroline Brown (Lemert), Ruby Bell, Miriam Clapham (Patrick), Mary Louise Corr (McDaniel), Edna Cunnison (Cavanaugh), Elizabeth Drake (Stevenson), Gladys Ewbank (Freundt), Mabel Kearns (Poynter), Nina McAllister (Harris), Beulah Radcliffe (Vane) and Dorothy

Spicely (Shaw). Regular weekly meetings were held after that, and organization progressed rapidly.

On January 31, 1922, they moved into a house at 425 East Kirkwood Avenue, one block west of the campus. They took the name of Phi Zeta, adopting "the Purdue chapter's local name," and made their formal début on the campus.

"Only those who have been charter members can really understand and appreciate those days," Nina McAllister wrote. "The thrill of it all when the *Indiana Daily Student* gave us a front page write-up can never be equalled. For the first time we saw in print the history of ZTA, a list of girls, and a list of the patronesses."

Their days were enchanted. "During all this time," they recounted, "we kept up a lively correspondence with the members of Grand Chapter. I would never dare to say which thrilled us more—the contents of the letters or the engraved letterhead of Zeta Tau Alpha. When permission to petition formally came from those higher up, we started to work on the formal petitions. That was the real work, planning, pasting, cutting, typing, assembling the whole, and sending it out at last. After a few weeks of halcyon work they were off—and again we were philosophical about life in general, and we learned the meaning of hope."

When they received word that the President was coming the last of February for their inspection visit, "there was the usual mad scramble of cleaning, scrubbing, talking and planning, the usual disappointments, the usual victories, and in the end, Phi Zeta's usual habit of coming out on top."

Several small parties were given in honor of Alpha Burkart and Mrs. J. B. Wilson gave a tea to which representatives from other campus organizations were invited.

"A short time after her departure we received word that . . . we had passed the first vote of Grand Council. The period of anxious waiting began, waiting for the final vote—waiting, waiting, waiting."

By this time the group was definitely convinced of Phi Zeta's charmed destiny to come out on top, "but even she had her bad luck." It had to do with a certain clause in their house contract required by the dean of women. Phi Zeta's landlady "had to choose that particular clause to break." They had to move. "Mid-terms were beginning, the junior prom was scheduled for that week-end, and the postman had just succeeded in establishing our names for the new address. Our luck stayed with us again and we awoke—after a hectic week-end of cramming for mid-terms, and getting ready for the prom—all beautifully intermingled with the process of carrying galoshes and traveling bags to our new quarters in the women's dormitory."

Returning from spring vacation on April 18, a waiting message instructed them to call at the telegraph office. They knew what it was. "We started thence, *en masse*," they wrote. "Prayerfully, quietly, oh, how quietly, we entered the

office. Silence reigned as the envelope was torn open—then came pandemonium.” The charter was granted.

At their urgent request, special permission was given to install the chapter before the end of the college year. Exactly one month later, the National Editor, Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout) pledged the twelve girls to Zeta Tau Alpha, and on the following day Alpha Burkart (Wettach) and Dr. May Agness Hopkins, N.P.C. Delegate, arrived for the installation, accompanied by Pearl Reed, Anne Barron (Fowler) and Elizabeth Lewis (Flint), of Chi chapter. Initiation and installation took place on May 19, 1922, in Mrs. Louden’s home, which she graciously turned over for the occasion. The original twelve were initiated.

Zeta Tau Alpha was the thirteenth Greek-letter fraternity for women on the campus.

Initiation was followed by a dinner at the Blue Lantern Cafe, and a reception at the home of Mrs. Robert E. Lyons, a patroness. Since the chapter was so hastily deprived of the house in which it thought it was well settled, all the installation functions had to be held elsewhere. Both the Kappa Alpha Thetas and the Beta Theta Pis entertained some of the visiting officers.

Early on the morning of May 20, the national officers and Alpha Xi chapter *en masse* entrained for Indianapolis to attend the first Tri-State convention which Alpha Delta and the Indianapolis Alumnae sponsored. Again Alpha Xi considered that its luck held. “We were fortunate, as usual,” they wrote. “The Indiana, Ohio and Illinois chapters had planned a Tri-State luncheon and dance to be held in Indianapolis. When rumors of our probable admittance reached them they postponed the convention until we could attend as real Zetas. We were certainly given a warm welcome into the fold, and in a few short days [we] had the real feeling, the spirit and true Zeta loyalty.”

But coming to the end of their early-day story, Alpha Xi felt that “it would be unjust to write a history of the evolution of Phi Zeta without mentioning the other campus fraternities. Nowhere have we met the snobbish spirit so generally attributed to fraternity life when a new chapter is trying to make good. From all sides came encouragement, assistance and advice. Genuine interfraternity spirit is manifested by all, and we know and appreciate the friendly welcome accorded us by the women’s fraternities at Indiana.”

Always fitting and fine that true appreciation be shown, the secretary expressed their realization that “above all, however, we owe allegiance to Mrs. Louden. Her interest, her personality, and her work have left their mark on the entire chapter. Her efforts in our behalf have been untiring, and are exceeded only by the love and loyalty that each girl gives to her. Next only to Mrs. Louden comes our first president, Doyme Koonce. She, too, knows the spirit of self-sacrifice, and her courage and optimism carried us safely over many a dangerous point.

“We are glad to wear the crown and shield,” they concluded. “It is even more



wonderful than we had anticipated. We are trying to win for Zeta Tau Alpha at Indiana her 'place in the sun,' and we feel sure that in a few short years the blue and the gray will be at the top in fraternity, scholarship, social standing and ideals. Our growth has seemed rapid, but we have built our house upon a rock, and it will stand."

Thus Nina McAllister (Harris) recorded the heritage that the original twelve passed on to succeeding generations of Alpha Xis.

ALPHA OMICRON: In the heart of the rich Middle Western corn belt "where the tall corn grows," an earnest group of girls began working for Zeta Tau Alpha.

As an accompaniment to the post-war enrollment expansion, there naturally arose the need for more groups at the State University of Iowa, and that need was the *raison d'être* of the new club formed in Iowa City a year after the war's termination.

On February 17, 1919, a group of girls met in Room 216 of Currier Hall, the women's dormitory, for the purpose of forming a local sorority which would later, when it should have some organization to offer, petition a national fraternity for a charter. The need of more fraternities on the campus gave the incentive for earnest and enthusiastic work.

"The group adopted a constitution under the name of Kalo, each letter of which symbolized a characteristic desire in each girl who was to become a member of the sorority." In the original group were Helen Wyllie, Ida May Koontz, Agnes Schwertfeger (Croyl), Florence Liebbe, Lillian Detthof (Smoke), Chaminade Blackford, Ina Wilvert (Threewit), Minnie Ehlert, Alice Dragstedt (Wolf), Helen Williams (Moen) and Flora Farrior.

In March, 1919, Kalo was recognized as a campus organization by the university's social committee. Regular weekly meetings were held in Currier Hall. When the college year ended there were thirteen members, eight of whom returned the following fall.

The scarcity of houses in Iowa City during the winter of 1919-1920 prevented the new organization from settling in a home of its own as had been planned. They therefore felt that they were "handicapped by the necessity of doing all formal rushing in the form of luncheons, theatre, dinner and dancing parties, which brought seven pledges."

But a suitable residence was found the following year. "Fifteen girls, ten of whom took residence in the new house at 14 East Burlington Street, were back in college. . . . By the end of that year the girls felt that the sacrifices incident to the maintenance of a house were well repaid by the five new girls pledged and initiated."

In view of the apparent success of the Kalo Club, they then considered themselves in a position to petition a national fraternity. Acting accordingly,

they adopted the Greek-letter name of Kappa Omega, and made their initial plans for petitioning. Their attention was first called to Zeta Tau Alpha by the president of the local Panhellenic Association. After the perusal of various fraternity magazines and correspondence with Zeta's National Secretary, Kappa Omega "began definitely to direct its efforts toward the establishment of a chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha at Iowa."

Correspondence was continued with the Secretary the next fall. They "worked with determination on internal organization, activities and scholarship" and were "rewarded at the end of the first semester by admission to local Panhellenic." In February, 1922, a petition was submitted to Zeta's Grand Chapter and on March 19, Helen M. Donaldson, the National Secretary, arrived for the formal inspection.

"When a few days later she left us . . . there began that period of about four months, when we watched and waited, hopeful, still reviewing with doubt our many imperfections. The word that the final vote on Kappa Omega's petition was favorable came early in August. From that time we were 'on probation,' much more hopeful, though finding it impossible to realize our success," they related.

"Weeks passed. We returned to college and to the house at 14 East Burlington Street. At the close of the five-day rushing season we pledged six girls. To us who waited, not taking an active part in all that was to be done before our charter was finally granted, the weeks following rushing seemed interminable. But now we know that 'all things come to those who wait'—and work. For during the busiest half-hour of our pledge tea, Western Union telephoned the message that our charter was granted. To the observant guests, who rightly interpreted our exuberance, no announcement was necessary."

From then on, things moved more swiftly and soon they were looking forward to meeting "another of the grand officers." The National Editor-Historian was to be their installing officer. In the words of Josephine Daus, "On the afternoon of Wednesday, December 6, Mrs. Strout arrived. That evening after an informal dinner at the house, pledging services were held for twenty-nine eager candidates who were thus enabled to wear the squares of blue and gray for two days on the campus.

"Adeline Mattes (Koch), Tau, arrived late Wednesday night, and so was here for the automobile tour of the campus and city, made on Thursday afternoon. The evening was spent at the chapter house, where Mrs. Strout instructed the officers in their new duties . . . and helped us with the delightful task of ordering our pins.

"Friday! The pledges entertained the installing officer and Miss Mattes at luncheon, while the actives wrote fraternity examinations! By six o'clock faces had assumed that well-known post-exam expression, the last traces of which did not disappear until we had 'made merry—feasting and dancing' with the six

Alpha Alphas who had arrived late that afternoon. Then followed round-table discussions of various topics, from 'spiking' to convention at Estes.

"During these few days with members of Zeta Tau Alpha, there came a greater realization than ever before of the beauty and richness that was coming into our lives. Early Saturday morning Mrs. Strout began, untiringly and with quiet dignity, to officiate as each of the twenty-five women pledged service to Zeta Tau Alpha, and invoked the guidance of Themis."

Officially the record read that the installation of Alpha Omicron took place December 7-10, 1922, with Shirley Kresan Krieg (Strout) conducting the services. She was assisted by Adeline Mattes (Koch), Tau, Helen Wainscotte (Peacock) and other members of Alpha Alpha who came from Mt. Pleasant to participate in the establishment of Zeta's second chapter in the state of Iowa.

Initiated at that time were Katherine Alexander (Nurse), Leora Ashbacher (Schmaus), Dorothy Cagley (Colvin), Josephine Daus (Conto), Esther Flynn (Boeke), Alice Dragstedt (Wolf), Grace Martins, Goldie McNees (Weed), Irma Molis (Hoopes), Cora Olive (Holm), Grace Owen (Menard), Sylvia Buser (Plotts), Irene Shenkle (Hunt), Iness Straight (Rafferty), Beatrice Wade, Orvetta Wissler (Barnes), Marguerite Zeithamel (Maybe), Bess Martin (Baker), Evelyn Bickett (Larkin), Chaminade Blackford, Clara Keller (House), Florence Liebbe, Catherine Mullin, Fern Olive (Hyatt) and Agnes Schwertfeger (Croyl).

The long day was rewarding and "it was a happy group who, at six o'clock, gathered at the Hotel Jefferson for the installation banquet. About the tables decorated in blue and silver, forty-five Zetas listened to the following toast program: 'The Page'—Florence J. Liebbe; 'The Knight'—Iness Straight; 'His Shield'—Helma Hanawalt (Alpha Alpha); 'Its Gleam'—Shirley K. Strout."

Blossoming out as new Zeta hostesses, on Sunday Alpha Omicron entertained at a reception for the faculty and campus fraternities. In the evening the members of Theta Sigma Phi, honorary professional journalistic sorority of which the installing officer was a member, entertained at a supper honoring her.

Then "at eight o'clock the visiting officer left for Minneapolis, leaving Alpha Omicron enriched and imbued with a new spirit of loyalty and cooperation."

And so twenty-five shiny new Zeta shields went home with twenty-five proud wearers for the Christmas holidays. Zeta Tau Alpha was the twelfth national women's fraternity at Iowa City.

**ALPHA PI:** In the college-dotted state of Ohio, historic vine-clad Ohio University—the oldest university west of the Allegheny Mountains—nurtured the outstanding group that became Zeta's Alpha Pi chapter.

Alpha Pi chapter was the direct outgrowth of an organization known for many years as Aloquin. Aloquin had its beginning in 1905 when a society, whose membership included both young men and young women, banded together to raise the social and moral standard of college life among themselves. Five years



later, "feeling that a more effective organization was necessary to represent the non-fraternity element of the university, a constitution was drafted and adopted, and the organization assumed the name of Ohio University Union."

But by 1911 the society had grown so large that it became necessary to divide it into two organizations. The men organized into the Phrenocon Association while the women, reorganizing with sixty-five members, retained the name of Ohio University Union.

The women's group flourished under that name until September 12, 1912, when the name Aloquin was adopted, and a charter was received from the state of Ohio. Aloquin's name was a combination of two Latin words, *alo*, meaning strengthen or encourage, and *quin*, meaning why not? Translated it meant "Why not strengthen? Why not encourage?"

"The aim of the organization was to promote the spirit of democracy and equality among the students, to establish high ideals of college work, to foster the principles which develop that integrity, morality, and strength of character consistent with the best type of womanhood and to perpetuate the bond of union between the students and their alma mater."

Sister organizations, which later withdrew and became Greek-letter societies, were formed at Ohio State University and Wittenberg College.

But Aloquin lived and prospered at Ohio University for ten years, never relinquishing the ideals with which it began, but each year increasing its activities and therefore its influence. From the date of founding, Aloquin held a scholarship rank higher than that of any of the Greek organizations on the campus. Membership qualifications were exceedingly high, an average grade of ninety per cent being required of each member. More than scholarship was considered, however, for the girls were judged by their leadership, ability and personality as a whole. Thus, great discretion and care were exercised in selecting Aloquin's members, and only those of unusual ability gained membership. "Although these high standards resulted in a group of girls of superior ability, their democratic spirit remained true and their loyalty to Aloquin was second only to that given to their Alma Mater."

Undeniably impressive was the 1922 survey which revealed that Aloquin had one-third of the members of Cresset, the scholarship and leadership honorary organization; two presidents of the Y.W.C.A., and many cabinet members; officers and members of Oyo, honorary literary society; members of the honorary dramatic organization; of the intercollegiate debating team; of the *College* staff; officers and members of the Women's League; of the English, history, French, biology, art and home economics clubs. "In fact, in any outstanding activity, an Aloquin might be found using her influence for higher standards."

The badge of Aloquin was the letter A, set with sixteen pearls, "each pearl bearing the same relationship to the whole, as its symbolism which collectively characterizes the ideal girl. The colors were blue and gold; thus after

installation, necessitating changing only the gold of purity to the silver of strength."

When, after seventeen years of brilliant organizational life the group became interested in national Greek-letter affiliation, they chose Zeta Tau Alpha because of their feeling that Zeta Tau Alpha, more than any other, more nearly paralleled in aims and endeavor the ideals and standards of Aloquin.

In May, 1922, Pearl Reed, Chi, formally inspected the group for Grand Chapter, and on October 25, 1922, the charter was granted.

But the Aloquins did not at once announce their good fortune. "The installation of Alpha Pi chapter came as a grand surprise to the Ohio University campus," they wrote. "From November 18 to December 17 we guarded carefully our secret. . . . Each day we looked forward to definite news from Grand Chapter. Finally the questions came and that evening we gathered in the fraternity room to make copies . . . for our absent alumnæ. There we sat on the floor writing question after question, making copy after copy, until our fingers ached, but our enthusiasm never failed."

Preparatory work was not unextensive in those days, so "the following days often extended far into the night; the candle furnished the light that dormitory rules refused us. Even after the candles had burned themselves out, the eyes of many Zetas-to-be gazed brightly into the darkness, while happy minds dreamed of the installation. . . ." They were joyous over the anticipated return of Pearl Reed whom they "had all grown to love during her visit in May."

On Friday morning, December 15, she arrived, and "throughout the day we were busy meeting trains and greeting returning alumnæ," for there were many of them. At a special meeting in the fraternity hall following luncheon, final installation arrangements were made. Then "Miss Reed not only answered innumerable questions but she also told us many interesting things about our grand officers, our sister chapters, the convention at Estes Park and the many traditions which are dear to the heart of every Zeta. . . . A little later she gave us our examination. How much better we felt to have that safely over!" The pledge service was held that evening in the fraternity room.

The following afternoon their patronesses entertained the chapter, their guests and representatives of other sororities at a formal tea. Next they "had planned a formal dinner at the Colonial for Saturday evening in honor of Miss Burkart, Miss Reed and our guests from Theta, Alpha Zeta and Alpha Eta chapters." But "imagine our disappointment," they lamented, "when we learned that Miss Burkart could not be with us until eight forty-five that evening. . . . We decided to delay the dinner. Fate, however, seemed inclined to play a decisive part, for she was detained at Parkersburg, West Virginia, until the following morning. Except for our disappointment in not having the President with us, the evening was an enjoyable one," they philosophized. The toasts that night "symbolized the white violet."

The President finally reached Athens and "practically all of Sunday was spent in initiating the thirty-three girls." Assisting were the Zetas who came from Theta, Alpha Zeta and Alpha Eta chapters. "Memories of installation and many other occasions will be preserved for future Zetas in the lovely memory book that Alpha Zeta presented to us," they wrote.

Alpha Pi's official installation date is December 15-17, 1922. The installing officer was the Grand President, who had such a time getting there. Assisting her were Pearl Reed, Chi, and the visiting chapter members just mentioned. The charter members were (College): Mary Bean, Anita Blinn (Wenger), Clara Blume (Martin), Leona Clark, Dorothy Duis, Mildred Mercier, Helen Bair (Barnhill), Alice Faine, Mary Williams, Hazel Bair (Husted), Ruth Marshall (Thumm), Josephine Stiers (Phillips), Marie Stowe. Alumnæ: Margaret George, Josephine Lepley (Parmer), Mabel Madden (Sunderland), Mildred Whitlatch (Flowers), Janice Hahn (Berry), Eunice Taylor, Frieda Chapman, Mary Ward, Julia Cable, Eva Ford, Hester South, Lela Ewers, Florence Hall (Johnson), Mabel Hatfield (Garfield), Nada Parish (Bobo), Myrtle Fox (Rotroff), Martha Minnick (Vincent), Marie Winter (Craig), Melba White (Hellebrandt), Gladys Palmer.

Flowers came from Pi Beta Phi, Chi Omega, Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Sigma Alpha and Theta Upsilon (local), while "notes of congratulations from others showed the friendly spirit with which the other Greek organizations welcomed Zeta Tau Alpha to the campus."

Although not given immediately following the ceremonies, Alpha Pi considered that the "final celebration of our installation [came when] we entertained the faculty and all the fraternities and sororities with a formal reception at the Students' Union, on Friday evening, January 12." The decorative feature was an illuminated Zeta badge. "Floor lamps and ferns made the cozy corners attractive. Music added to the enjoyment of the guests."

As they entered upon a new phase, the Athens Zetas had this to say: "Under Aloquin . . . we aimed at the highest ideals and goals, and now as Alpha Pi we hope to maintain the same high standards, making them broader and better under the guidance of Themis, so that Alpha Pi may be one of the bright links in the chain that helps to make great the proud name of Zeta Tau Alpha."

ALPHA RHO: Zeta Tau Alpha's extension into the state of New York was brought about through the "broad vision and unselfish spirit of another fraternity woman—Miss Louise Leonard," who was then Alpha Gamma Delta's National President. It was "she who saw the need of more fraternities at Syracuse University and knew that to fill this need would bring happiness and added opportunity to the lives of many girls." Thus did Lucy Pelton summarize Alpha Rho's beginning and the fine spirit which gave it birth.

"It was in January, 1921," she wrote, "that Miss Leonard called together nine



congenial girls and suggested that if we were sufficiently interested in the fraternity situation at Syracuse, it might be possible for us to organize a group that would be strong enough to petition a national fraternity." Her judgment was unerring in her choice of girls, and her suggestion fell on fallow ground. The outcome was that "after seriously considering the question, we decided to band together as Pi Delta Kappa and to exert our best efforts to form such a local as would meet the requirements of Zeta Tau Alpha."

Miss Leonard was in close touch with Zeta Tau Alpha, and it was in her home, on March 3, that Pi Delta Kappa's first business meeting was held. The first officers were: president, Thelma Searles; vice-president, Jerusha Oakley; recording secretary, Gladys Harford; treasurer, Helen Becker. Realizing that each girl should have her part, they inaugurated a "system of dues and various committees [were] appointed so that each girl might feel that she had a definite part to play in the success of the undertaking."

Their chief object and aim was Zeta Tau Alpha. With Miss Leonard's ever-available guidance and help, "the group's petition to be recognized as a local and to petition a national was granted by the University Eligibility Committee, and each girl's eligibility for initiation according to the standards of the University was certified to by the registrar."

With pride they announced that the "following prominent women have consented to act as patronesses: Mrs. George R. Fearon, wife of the New York State Senator; Mrs. Florence E. S. Knapp, dean of the college of home economics; and Mrs. Frank Bonta, a well-known Syracuse woman who is deeply interested in girls. Dr. Herman Weiskotten and Mrs. Weiskotten, valued patron and patroness, were especially interested in, and helpful to, the new group.

"Our organization being well started, we gave our first rushing party on March 13, at Miss Leonard's, and four more girls were selected to join the group." During the next few months they "continued to add . . . girls whom the original members felt would be loyal to the ideals of Pi Delta Kappa and who would stand for the worthwhile things in college life." In order that Pi Delta Kappa ideals "might be impressed upon [those] entering the group, a ritual was drawn up and used for the initiation of new members."

They continued to hold regular business meetings at Miss Leonard's home and, at the March 29 meeting, definite plans were made to petition Zeta Tau Alpha. "Each girl was recommended by some faculty member and busy days followed until the petition book was finally assembled and started on its way."

Their next accomplishment was recorded in a masterpiece of understatement. "Then followed days of waiting," they wrote, "but they were not idle days. No, indeed! In the few weeks remaining before college closed for the summer, we rented a house, bought furniture, elected Peg Wear rushing chairman and made plans for the fall."

As the chapter stories in this volume unfold, repeated instances prove the ability of a group of women to keep their own counsel. The Syracuse girls were further examples. "We had kept things very quiet," they confided, "and consequently when college opened in September, 1922, everyone was surprised to find us located in a chapter house and taking an active part in rushing. The preferential bidding system, tried out for the first time, proved successful. We pledged eight freshmen and four upperclassmen. We were invited to join Panhellenic and we had a representative at the first meeting."

After this first and only rushing season under the name of Pi Delta Kappa, the chapter set about making itself known on the campus. Athletics proved to be the chief activity, two girls making the rifle team and another winning a letter in basketball.

At a chapter meeting on September 29, an average of eighty per cent for twelve hours' credit was established as the requirement for initiation.

By this time they were a well-set-up, functioning group, and quite ready for "the welcome news that Miss Donaldson was coming to inspect us. Although we had been hoping and planning for this visit all fall, there was the usual mad scramble to make everything just as attractive as possible." She arrived on October 21, 1922. The visiting officer "was entertained in Miss Leonard's home and was, of course, kept very busy as an inspector always is. Before she left she spurred us on to greater activity and harder study."

The next few weeks were spent in "waiting and working—until just as we were leaving for Thanksgiving vacation the telephone rang and a telegram was read to us." Their charter was granted. "Such wild excitement as reigned for a few minutes! When we finally stopped talking and laughing and started for our trains, it was with the feeling that Thanksgiving would mean a great deal to us, for we had so very much to be thankful for."

Their goal was realized when, on Thursday, February 1, the Grand Secretary, Catherine Hall and Florence Beal of Rho, Elizabeth Thompson (Shopp), Isabel Jamison (Crownover) and Harriet Deacon, of Alpha Beta, arrived for the installation ceremonies. Pledging was held that evening. On Friday evening the girls took the fraternity examination.

Initiation and installation, with Helen Donaldson in charge, assisted by the visiting Zetas, took place on February 3, 1923, at the chapter house, 106 Walnut Place. The charter members initiated that day were: Beulah Barnes (Legge), Alberta Bauer (Cushman), Helen Becker (McCurey), Hazel Boyd (Beebe), Vera Carpenter (Callison), Frederica Coon (Rockefeller), Lois Gardner (Jutton), Beatrice Giveans (Walket), Frances Hall (Trantum), Esther Legge (Mersfelder), Mildred Manguse (Ward), Jerusha Oakley (Evans), Lucy Pelton (Faigle), Thelma Searles (Bowen), Marion Stewart Southwick, Clara Squires (Turner), Vivian Vergason (McCarey), Norma Vergason (Beach), Margaret Wear (Dunkle). Helen Cochrane (MacCargo), a former member of Pi Delta Kappa,

and Helene Aldrich (Morris), Gladys Fanton and Margaret Rumberger (Moore), pledges, were also initiated.

A banquet followed at the Onondaga Hotel, then Sunday afternoon Miss Leonard entertained at a tea. On Monday afternoon Alpha Rho was at home to its friends and members of the faculty. Syracuse's reception was gratifying and warm. "The cordiality and friendliness shown by the faculty and other sororities left no doubt as to Zeta Tau Alpha's warm welcome on this campus."

Concluding their story they said, "So ended one of the happiest weeks of our lives and so begins Zeta Tau Alpha's history at Syracuse University"—the fifteenth women's fraternity on that campus.

**ALPHA SIGMA:** The first chapter in the state of Oregon followed a brief visit which Evelyn Callicutt, the National Inspector, made to the Corvallis campus in the spring of 1921 on behalf of possible extension.

That Oregon State College (then called the Oregon Agricultural College) was a fertile field that held fine extension possibilities was a well-known fact at that time.

At Miss Callicutt's conference with the dean of women, several outstanding girls were recommended as potential leaders in a new fraternity. But Margaret Sullivan (Devers) was the one who gathered together a small group and set about the work of forming a local organization "worthy of petitioning Zeta Tau Alpha." Zeta Tau Alpha was most fortunate in that start, for Margaret Sullivan was one of the most prominent girls in the college, brilliant and a born leader with boundless energy.

"The girls met in absolute secrecy and finished their constitution, settling all details." Thus "it came as a great surprise when, on June 7, 1921, the college paper announced that a new local, Beta Alpha, had been granted permission to establish itself on the campus." The 1921 pioneers were: Margaret Sullivan (Devers), president; Theresa Allcock (Hensel), vice-president; Frances Perry (Flinn), secretary; Bessie Biehler (Dolton), manager; Grace Short (Watson), Dollie Day Waid (Tubbs), Mary Fullington, Gladys Taft (Packwood), Phyllis Roberts and Helen Sims (Knight).

Deciding that housing was the next logical move, the group enterprisingly set up housekeeping. They rented a house in October. As they put it, "in the fall of 1921 the girls assembled in Margaret Snell Hall and began to make plans for moving into a house." Nearly all them lived in one end of the hall, consequently late meetings were frequent and undisturbed. The acquisition of a house was a big project for a small group of college girls to face, but they could not take their time about it.

In fact, "the women's halls were so crowded" that they "were forced to move before they were really ready. At last a home was rented and on October 14 they left the Hall, bag and baggage." They needed help and they had it. "The



Alpha Tau Omegas proved to be our good friends," they reported, "for they brought over their cars and carried everything but trunks to the house. Once there they washed windows, moved furniture and oiled the floors—we were not in the hardwood class yet. That night a very tired but happy group of eight girls took turns at sitting on the three chairs and eating with two forks and one spoon.

"It seems," Alpha Sigma's chronicler continued, "that Beta Alpha was born under a lucky star, for we had wonderful luck from the first. We have been able to choose the cream of the girls for our own and everyone has been so good to us. There have been several hard knocks but we seem to be made of India rubber for the harder we hit, the higher we bounce. Miss Rolfe, dean of women, was our best friend and it is because of her interest and love for us that we have grown strong so quickly. She was unable to return this year but we will always cherish her as our big sister and loyal friend."

Naturally, they wanted to try their wings as hostesses, but they didn't. "The girls were most anxious to entertain," they explained, "but some of the level heads said no, not until we were soundly on our feet. So we set to work to make our group the best we could. . . . Many of the girls went into activities. Theresa Allcock, Frances Perry and Thelma Harvison were on the *Beaver* annual staff. Peggy was secretary of the Mask and Dagger dramatic club and Sadie Clinton made Madrigal. Peggy also made Delta Psi Kappa and had a diamond put in her pin for high scholarship. We have two Delta Psi Kappas, for Gladys Coryell, instructor in Redlands College, is a diamond girl, too."

Their pledges that first year were Alice Carroll (Hayter), Mina Ward (Boone), Bernice Billings (Lachelle), Ruth Whitney (Woodhead), Thelma Harvison (Patterson), Frieda Biehn (Lucas), Sadie Clinton, Vivian Gorham (Abozeid), Greeta Freeman (Ross), Ulla Dickinson (Boone), Freeta Henderson, Florence Bocock (Coutant), Lillian Hout, Belle Pierce (Sickler) and Avis Smith.

A daffodil tea in May was their "first formal venture into society" and they dressed for it. "The girls wore pastel organdies and flowers." Sunday evening teas were their chief form of entertainment during the winter quarter. "The girls and boys prepare tea, serve, and wash the dishes." They never lacked entertainment, for they "always had two or three budding musicians or storytellers who furnished the crowd with numbers."

Then some of the Oregon girls went traveling, for during the summer they "had the pleasure of meeting Miss Poggi," Zeta's Grand Vice-President, "in Los Angeles, and through her we met several Zetas."

In October a Californian, Mildred Snowden (Smith), Xi, journeyed up the coast to inspect the prosperous Beta Alpha at the request of Grand Chapter. Delighted with all the Zetas they had met they promptly added Mrs. Smith to their list. After that conquest Mrs. Smith went home to recommend the group for a charter.

College "opened that year with a few girls and all the houses were rushing the same girls." Beta Alpha fared well. They bid six and pledged six: Helen North (Parker), Inez Sullivan (McClintock), Emily Hout, Dorothy McGogy, Margaret Carmichael and Frances Humphrey (Keller) moved into the house just after Mrs. Smith's visit. During the term they pledged Tressa Phillips (Smith), Retha Nash (Lewis), Norma Marrs (McNamara), Mabel Norman (Allbright), Marian Walters (Plumb), Lois Denny (Broderick) and Bess Erwin (McPherson). "Several girls had to leave college because of illness," they reported, "but we have several good women for next year." Thelma Harvison (Patterson) was president that year and Alice Carroll (Hayter) had already assumed her duties as "president for next year."

In their installation year two members were in Madrigal. Thelma Harvison succeeded Margaret Sullivan (Devers) as secretary of Mask and Dagger. Alice Carroll (Hayter) and Mina Ward (Boone) were on the staff of the *Beaver*, while the latter was also on the O.A.C. directory staff and was Junior Weekend program chairman. Norma Marrs was on the staff of the *Barometer*, the daily paper, and she and Marian Walters (Plumb) were on the freshman basketball team. Avis Smith was Oregon's representative to the Y.W.C.A. convention held in Hot Springs, Arkansas, and was a member of the Division Council. Many other minor activities were listed.

On April 7, 1923, Mary Poggi (Richley) installed Alpha Sigma chapter. Happy to welcome another chapter in the Northwest, Psi came down from Seattle to assist her and to meet the Oregon girls.

Pledging was conducted Wednesday evening by Mrs. Richley "who arrived from California that afternoon. The services took place immediately after dinner. . . . Thursday five Zetas from Psi arrived and by noon the house had taken on an added air of excitement. We proudly wore our blue and grey and crammed for the fraternity examination. Friday night more Zetas arrived and we took the examination. About one o'clock, the house settled down to a peaceful slumber after a most strenuous day.

"Initiation services began at ten o'clock Saturday morning and lasted until five. We all felt that we had taken part in a ceremony too beautiful and sacred for expression. . . ."

The charter members were: Alice Carroll (Hayter), Grace Short (Watson), Avis Smith, Belle Pierce (Sickler), Ulla Dickinson (Boone), Thelma Harvison (Patterson), Mina Ward (Boone), Sadie Clinton, Frances Perry (Flinn), Phyllis Roberts, Ruth Whitney (Woodhead), Grace Hunt (Jackson), Frances Humphrey (Keller), Frieda Biehn (Lucas), Helen North (Parker), Greeta Freeman (Ross), Vivian Gorham (Abozeid), Tressa Phillips (Smith) and Norma Marrs (McNamara).

Blue and grey were carried out in the installation banquet decorations that night "and the room was lovely with an artistic background of flowers. The

pledges, under the direction of a kind friend, had made a perfect bower for the banquet. Thelma Harvison acted as toastmistress and Miss Poggi gave a short speech. Psi's president, Genevieve Vining, greeted the new chapter and presented a surprise gift, a beautiful shield." The toasts were: "The Launching of the Ship"—Thelma Harvison; "The Voyage and the Reefs"—Alice Carroll; "The Harbor"—Ulla Dickinson.

Following the banquet they "went to the house for a dance," then at eleven-thirty "the stunts began and we had several extemporaneous numbers. The house was a perfect bower of flowers, for they had been coming all day from the different houses on the campus."

Alpha Sigma's reception for the faculty and other fraternities was held Sunday afternoon. "It was a beautiful spring day and our rooms looked like a florist shop, gay with flowers and pretty spring frocks. From three until five o'clock a steady stream of callers came to congratulate us. Some of them signed their names and some did not, but our little book contained the names of over four hundred persons when the afternoon was over."

When the Seattle Zetas left, Alpha Sigma "felt lost with just our small group." Miss Poggi stayed with them for a few days and they wished they "might keep her always. . . ."

ALPHA TAU: Shortly before the 1923 national convention—and just in time for the new chapter to attend it—the forty-fourth charter grant was made when Alpha Tau chapter was installed at the University of Minnesota, in Minneapolis.

The beginning of the chapter, however, dated back to the month of May, in 1920, when Arline Wright (Swennes), Vivienne Sober (Kittson), Grace Williams (Speelman) and Elvira Thorsteinson (Leam) "made plans to organize definitely for the purpose of uniting more closely a group of girls in a common bond of fellowship and a more intimate association with one another."

While the start was made, it was not until the fall of 1921 that formal organization was effected and the following officers chosen: Grace Williams, president; Vivienne Sober, secretary, and Arline Wright, treasurer.

During that college year (1921-1922), the group's number was gradually increased. They named their organization Alpha Rho, "and Zeta Tau Alpha was chosen as the fraternity to petition." Then real activity began.

"A meeting over the teacups in the Jean Martin Brown room of Shevlin Hall was the first social date on Alpha Rho's calendar," but "a week later" they ambitiously gave a Hallowe'en tea at Shevlin "at which Dean Jessie Ladd and several rushees were guests of honor." Then "the girls who had been previously pledged were treated to a wiener roast on the banks of the Mississippi River."

At Alpha Rho's first formal initiation which took place at Shevlin Hall on November 7, 1921, Maxine Cutler and Lucille Quinn became full-fledged mem-



bers. Then with no diminution of tempo, "the Christmas spirit prevailed at a holiday tea on December 17 at Candle Glow Inn. A few days later a dinner was given at the Elks Club." Then Hazel Martin and June Hart were formally initiated at the home of Viola May Ankenbrand after the holidays.

They had, however, done a great deal more than observe the social amenities and enjoy to the utmost their new life as an organization. "The petition on which we had worked through half of the previous year was sent to Zeta Tau Alpha the last of February, 1922. At the beginning of 1922, Vivienne Sober was made president, Catherine Cleary, vice-president, Helen Sjobloom, secretary, and Arline Wright, treasurer."

When they received "a favorable report" on their petition from Zeta's Grand Chapter there was "much rejoicing. . . . We worked hard and steadily to enlarge our membership and to perfect the organization so that we might be worthy of the fraternity we had chosen," they declared.

In the fall of 1922, then greatly strengthened by the addition of other enthusiastic members, "Alpha Rho was recognized as a local fraternity by the Panhellenic Council, something which has occurred neither before nor since at the University of Minnesota," they announced with pride. Lois Powell was their senior official delegate. Winnifred Hughes was the junior delegate.

Going along smoothly, "with campus recognition, Alpha Rho was able to progress rapidly and well. Rushing teas were given once or twice a week and by entertaining often at informal teas, Alpha Rho was able to select for membership girls of the very finest caliber, girls who would make not only good Alpha Rhos, but worthy Zeta Tau Alphas."

Their scholastic record was brilliant. They ranked second in the Panhellenic group.

But they were not working alone. Allied with them in spirit and activity were six wisely chosen patronesses who were with them in all they did. They were a part of Alpha Rho. Realizing this the chapter wrote: "Helping us in whatever we might undertake as Alpha Rhos, and keeping before us the ideals of Zeta Tau Alpha, acting the part of older-sister advisers—this was the task which our six patronesses, Nelda Hilgendorf (Watts), Mrs. Angie Kingsley, Mrs. Carolyn Storlei, Mrs. A. C. Moore, Mrs. I. C. Le Compte and Mrs. Colbert Searles, chose to perform from the time they decided to ally themselves with us." And they were not incorrect when they acknowledged "that our patronesses were very influential in our final achievement."

The winter months before an officer was to visit them "were busy ones." The new officers were: Hazel Martin, president; Catherine Cleary, vice-president; Lucille Quinn, secretary; and June Hart, treasurer.

Their official visitor, Shirley Krieg (Strout), who was en route from the Iowa installation, arrived on a blizzardy morning in December. It was Minnesota winter at its severest and it remained bitterly cold. Icy roads and frozen cars

were transportation hazards but Lois Powell's Franklin, which always started, saved more than one situation. But the continuing cold was only outside. The visit was a mutually happy experience even though the inspecting officer was unprepared for the rigors of a Minnesota winter.

Picturing it through their eyes, "she became acquainted with the group, and we with her through several informal meetings. Through contact with her . . . we learned what a Zeta Tau Alpha should and might be." The functions given in honor of Zeta's Editor included a luncheon at the home of Mrs. Searles, "an open house tea by members of Alpha Rho at the Kappa Delta chapter house, a formal banquet at the Minneapolis Athletic Club, and a tea by Theta Sigma Phi."

Although Zeta Tau Alpha was their goal, up to that time the Minnesota girls had met no Zetas. So in 1923, "with the inspiration of having met a member of the fraternity which we hoped to call our own, and with Zeta Tau Alpha's splendid standards always before us, we redoubled our efforts in the local chapter. . . ."

When the May telegram announcing their charter grant arrived they "were too happy for speech. This wonderful phenomenon," they wrote, "aided us in keeping the news quiet on the campus until Mrs. Strout arrived several days later to officiate at installation." For "together with the news of the charter grant came the happy news" that the same officer who had visited them in December would return for their installation. "Since she had been a true friend and the personification of Zeta Tau Alpha to each of us . . . it seemed most fitting that she should share with us the greatest event of our college careers—which proved indeed to be more beautiful than we had dared to dream."

It was late in the year, but from the neighboring chapters invited to participate came Lorna Packard (Humphrey), Alpha Iota, from Lawrence College, and Evelyn Naylor (Klumb), Alpha Gamma, from the University of Michigan. "The awe we felt at associating with full-fledged members of an organization to which we had been aspiring so long, gradually wore off under their friendliness," the Minnesota girls wrote.

This time it was spring in full bloom, and the officer was finishing a long inspection trip. But the chapter's remembrances of December's frigidness remained. "A luncheon at the Hollyhocks Tea Room on the River Drive in St. Paul, and a party at the summer home of Mary Stoddard, Tonka Bay, Lake Minnetonka, gave the installing officer a more favorable impression of the twin cities than she gained during inspection time, when closed cars, blankets and steam heat all failed to keep her warm," they related.

"Early Sunday morning, on May 27, at the Minneapolis home of Catherine Cleary, Alpha Rho members pledged themselves to Zeta Tau Alpha. If this beautiful ceremony . . . is pledging, what can initiation be?" they wondered, "and they kept turning" this question over in their minds during the days

which intervened between pledging and initiation. "How proud we were of the turquoise blue and steel grey ribbons which signified our pledge, and how we envied the few girls who wore over their hearts the real pledge pin of the fraternity!" With so little time intervening between the date of the charter grant and installation itself, pins and badges presented a problem. The new Iowa chapter sent their pledge pins and "the members of Alpha Iota . . . gave up their badges that we might have enough to install our large chapter," Alpha Tau explained in *Themis*. But it was a large chapter, and there were not quite enough pledge pins to go around.

Initiation, which the chapter later described as "perfect and filled with religious beauty," took place on Wednesday, May 30, at the home of Mrs. Frank A. Kingsley, in Minneapolis. "Starting at seven o'clock in the morning and continuing throughout the day, with only one short hour for luncheon, the following members were initiated by Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Editor of *Themis*, assisted by Lorna Packard (Humphrey) and Evelyn Naylor (Klumb): Elvira Thorsteinson (Leam), Nelda Hilgendorf (Watts), Helen Lucille Rogers (Sayre), Winnifred Hughes (Ator), Catherine Cleary (Lineberry), Hortense Trautman (Holekamp), Hazel Martin (Peterson), Lucille Quinn (Meade), Helene Quinn (Skoglund), Maxine Cutler, Myrtle Sanderson (Roeding), June Hart (Heathcote), Mildred Meyer (Miller), Janett Becker (Martin), Hanna Johnson (Ring), Florence Brown (Michelmores), Edna Olsen, Lois Powell, Vivienne Sober (Kittson), Angie Van Niman (Kingsley), Beatrice Thomas (Searles), Nina Arline Wright (Swennes), Grace Williams (Speelman), Carolyn Nelson (Storlei) and Mary Stoddard (Clark). Installation of Alpha Tau chapter followed.

Completing the day was the formal installation banquet at the Town and Country Club, in St. Paul, "which will be remembered by Alpha Tau members throughout the life of each. Mrs. Strout's message to the newly installed chapter was responded to by Elvira Thorsteinson. The group of girls which left the Town and Country Club late the night of May 30 was a tired one—but I will wager the happiest group of girls in existence," they declared.

The presentation tea the next day, "given in honor of the installing officer and the new chapter," was held at the home of Professor Joseph Beach and Mrs. Beach "whose home the girls will occupy the coming year."

"We are grateful," the girls wrote, "to Mrs. Strout and Grand Chapter for our timely installation so that two of our number might attend convention . . ." and attend they did. As they ended the year they expressed their belief "that the real meaning of fraternity lies in the intimate contacts experienced during the precious years of one's college life. And next year in our beautiful home we hope to form a chapter spirit and friendship which will grow and endure—a spirit which will be an outgrowth, an inspiration of a great fraternity, the greatness of which we had just begun to understand at the time of our initiation and installation."



Zeta Tau Alpha was the seventeenth national women's fraternity placed on the Minneapolis campus, and Alpha Tau was Zeta's first chapter in that state.

**ALPHA UPSILON:** The Oklahoma story goes back to "a beautiful Sunday afternoon in May, 1915, [when] nine congenial sophomore girls met at the home of Daisy Patterson (Suman), a Zeta from Epsilon chapter, and with her help and advice organized the third local women's fraternity at Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College—Gamma Chi." So wrote Norma Brumbaugh when Alpha Upsilon was introduced in *Themis*.

Gamma Chi's founders were Norma Brumbaugh, Esther Denton, Ruth Evans, Florence Fisher, Leona Abercrombie Rapp, Marybell Denton, Vera Morgan, Georgia Walters and Gladys Freidlay. At that time there were no national organizations on the Stillwater campus, only local groups for both men and women.

"Each year" they wrote, "the addition of new members strengthened Gamma Chi, making it one of the foremost fraternities. And for several years, with no opposition except from other local groups, Gamma Chi took little interest in petitioning a national fraternity." In 1919, however, three national organizations installed chapters on the campus. Despite this new competition, Gamma Chi "increased in numbers and strength, and for four years, although a local rushing against strong nationals," they were able to retain their high standing. New girls consistently chose Gamma Chi.

By 1919, though, they "decided that the opportune time had come to apply for admission to a national," and in 1921 they decided to petition Zeta Tau Alpha.

The National Inspector visited them in Stillwater in December, 1922. "Miss Callicutt's visit aroused within us hopes that sometime within the near future we might be privileged to wear the beautiful pin of Zeta Tau Alpha," they declared. Their hopes were realized in May, 1923, when a charter was granted and by special arrangement, one member, Fay Wilson (Upp), attended the June Colorado convention where she was initiated by Grand Chapter.

For the first four years of its existence Gamma Chi's members were "scattered throughout the city in private homes and at the Woman's Building. Rushing parties were given at the homes of patronesses, principally at Mrs. Suman's. In fact, we were soon speaking of Mrs. Suman's home as the 'Gamma Chi house' and of Mrs. Suman as the 'Gamma Chi mother,'" they related. However, feeling the need of closer relationship they "established a chapter house in the fall of 1919. But even though we moved into a home of our own, Mrs. Suman remained our close friend and adviser," they added.

Strong and well able to handle house ownership, in the spring of 1923 Gamma Chi purchased its first house, at 713 College Avenue. It had ten rooms. And getting settled in that new home was one of the major complications attendant upon Alpha Upsilon's installation.

"The story of our installation," they wrote in *Themis*, "was one of both pleasure and sadness. When, on August 13 we received word from Miss Callicutt that she would arrive the morning of the seventeenth for installation, there ensued five of the busiest days that Gamma Chi had ever known. First of all, our home which we had purchased in the spring had just been vacated and we were very anxious to have it in order for installation. There was everything to be done; a thorough cleaning, curtains fitted to the windows, new furniture to be bought, and old furniture to be renovated.

"Our girls were scattered all over this vast country, from Washington, D.C., to California; from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico and some were in the mountains of Colorado. To all quarters went our call. Many failed to receive it in time to be with us on the appointed date. Only twenty-three, including those residing in Stillwater, were able to [be there].

"As each member arrived, eager and happy, she was saddened by the news" of the passing of the little son of one of Gamma Chi's charter members and most enthusiastic workers. In deference to Florence Fisher (Hinkel), all social plans were cancelled and "a quiet, subdued group met on Friday evening to be pledged to Zeta Tau Alpha. Saturday morning the group attended the funeral services in a body and accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Hinkel to the cemetery."

At ten o'clock they gathered at the chapter house where Miss Callicutt, assisted by Frances Rigdon, Frances Wahl, Margaret Niebling (Parkinson), Helen Corning (Holstein) and Gladys McCormick (Holbrook) of Sigma, had been preparing for initiation. They were assisted by Daisy Patterson (Suman), Epsilon, who was to see the group she had so long sponsored incorporated into her own fraternity, and Fay Wilson (Upp), the chapter's own convention initiate of that summer.

"Twenty-two girls were made Zetas before the day ended," initiation "halting at noon only long enough to devour a delicious lunch brought in to us by Ruth Whittenberg. All agreed in pronouncing the ceremony beautiful," Henri Downey wrote, "and Miss Callicutt was very impressive in the presentation."

Those initiated in the chapter house so quickly set in order were: Clara Priest (Darlow), Lenore Caldwell (Goodholm), Madeline Gammel (Patterson), Ruth Evans (Whittenberg), Norma Brumbaugh, Esther Denton (Tice), Margaret Denton (Briscoe), Beatrice Hicks (Raggio), Mary Schuler (Whitehead), Flossie Smith (Schick), Dora Berry (Snow), Ruby Berry (Stallings), Neta Holmes (Altekruse), Victoria Cox (Izsak), Henri Downey (Howard), Frances Kahle (Espach), Blanche Reifschneider (Schafer), Maxine Dusch Knapp (Haworth), Marion King (Weinberg), Opal Lawrence (Bunt), Katherine Hetsch (Hoag) and Mildred Smith (Rey). Florence Fisher (Hinkel) was initiated on September 8, 1923.

The new Oklahoma chapter was "glad indeed that Miss Callicutt was sent to install" them and they "were delighted that so many Zetas from Sigma could be

there." It gave them "a closer national feeling to become acquainted with members of another chapter and to feel that they were sufficiently interested in our welfare to come for our installation," Henri Downey wrote in *Themis*.

"Saturday evening and Sunday the girls went their several ways, each one proudly displaying a Zeta pin and feeling herself already a unit in that great organization to which we proudly belong."

ALPHA PHI: The opulent twenties were to see the establishment of Zeta's third chapter in the state of Illinois when the women's enrollment of another great university was beyond the capacity of existing campus groups to absorb.

In February, 1922, Grace Ann Mattern,\* a member of the faculty of the school of speech at Northwestern University, called to her studio a small group of girls "to consider forming a new group on the campus." Miss Mattern's move was inspired by a conversation with Northwestern's president, Dr. Walter Dill Scott, who expressed the desire for a larger number of organizations than then existed at the university. With the suggestion made, Grace Mattern went ahead with the assurance of official sanction and blessing.

The original five were Grace Mattern, Miriam Risser, Isabel Theodosia Risser (Gathany), May E. Youngberg and Marguerite Schafer. Cecile Vogelbaugh, Orpha Buck (Weber), Nell Waldron and Ellen Gauger soon joined them, followed by Ellen Carlson and Elizabeth Soper. Their meetings were "irregular, informal and secret."

Correspondence during the following summer furthered their earnest desire for the formation of a permanent group, and during that time "the idea of petitioning a national fraternity was acted upon. Several of the girls knew Zeta Tau Alphas, and had close friends among them. Miriam and Teddy Risser knew girls at Illinois, and Cecile Vogelbaugh had Zeta friends." And it might, or might not, have been coincidental that Teddy Risser was engaged to the brother of one of the Illinois Zetas.

When Northwestern opened that fall, in fact on "the first day of college," the group met and "definitely decided to petition Zeta Tau Alpha." They formally organized and adopted Omicron Alpha as their name. Nell Waldron was their first president and while the group was still Omicron Alpha she brought it the distinction of having a member of Phi Beta Kappa. A little later she was awarded a fellowship in the department of history. The other first officers were Ellen Carlson, vice-president, and rushing chairman; Elizabeth Soper, secretary; and Marguerite Schafer, treasurer. After some intensive work, their "petition book was compiled and sent off in November."

Interested in, and knowing about the group, Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout),

\* At that time Miss Mattern was also national president of Phi Beta, professional speech sorority.



Editor of *Themis*, met the Northwestern girls while passing through Chicago in December, 1922, on her way to install the University of Iowa chapter. At a luncheon gathering at the Drake Hotel, suggestions were made, and there were questions and answers.

In the spring of 1923, shortly before the national convention, Mrs. Strout went to Evanston for Omicron Alpha's formal inspection. "Until June, 1923," they wrote, "the rushing and work of the organization was kept secret." Then a luncheon was held at the Evanston Hotel to which the following patrons and patronesses were invited (the women in this group became members of Omicron Alpha): Mrs. Rufus C. Dawes, Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Evans, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Hodgson, Dr. E. R. Soper, Professor and Mrs. A. G. Terry and Professor and Mrs. K. W. Colegrove. "Mrs. S. R. Harris was chosen as an honorary member."

At the time of the inspecting officer's visit Omicron Alpha was recognized by the local Panhellenic Association, and theirs was the distinction of having their organization formally announced by the acting dean of women, Winnifred Richardson. The engraved cards carried high honor with them. Of this decision the chapter wrote: "In the meantime Mrs. Strout had made her official visit and said, 'Announce yourselves by all means.'" So, "contrary to campus tradition Omicron Alpha did come out, announced by Mrs. Winnifred G. Richardson, in June, 1923"—a début made with distinction and dignity. No other group at Northwestern had had the distinction of such an announcement.

Among the many functions during the time of inspection was the tea given for the inspecting officer and the Omicron Alphas by Mrs. Rufus Dawes at her beautiful home on Sheridan Road, in Evanston.

While passing through Chicago with the President and Secretary en route to the June Colorado convention, Zeta's Editor arranged for Mrs. Wettach and Miss Donaldson to meet some of the petitioning group, and the officers from the East were shown the Northwestern campus. With the report and high recommendation of their sponsoring officer, Alpha Phi's charter was granted at the Grand Chapter meeting preceding convention, and announcement of it was made during convention.

But long before that Mary Saunders (Foster), Ruth Helligas, Ruth Hodgson (Lang), Margaret Briggs (DeGarmo), Thora Martin (Baker) and Beatrice Crossman (Griffith) became members of the group and Dorothy Britton was pledged.

"The good news of the charter grant came during the summer. Then during the fall rushing season, Alice Chenoweth (Pate), Loretta Chenoweth (Adkins), Ariel Thorpe (Jewett) and Dorothy Metz were pledged. Florence Smith was pledged a month later." The last of October the two Chenoweths and Ariel Thorpe were initiated. And Alpha Phi's installation was near.

When Alpha Phi was introduced in *Themis* the chapter wrote that it wanted "to make its best bow to its sister chapters and assure them that although

it has been through a most wonderful experience and a week of exciting events, it is gradually getting back to earth again and has already taken up the routine of fraternity life.

"We have enjoyed so much the telegrams and letters from all of you. Especially did we appreciate the messages from the younger chapters, for we could see that the thrill of installation had not yet departed."

Taking up the thread of their story, "the arrival of Mrs. Strout and Miss Jellicorse, our guests from Tau, Alpha Kappa and Alpha Iota, the shower of messages and flowers from the other sororities at Northwestern ushered in the days for which we had waited so eagerly. It made us happy to have Mrs. Strout as the installing officer. . . . [The officers] arrived Thursday morning, November 15, and the pledging services took place that evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Hodgson.

"It was during this service and in the meeting which followed that we clearly saw what lay ahead of us." When the installing officer said, "Omicron Alpha exists no more," we realized that the old order had changed and that we had taken up new duties and responsibilities. "The officers elected at this meeting were: president, Elizabeth Soper; vice-president, May Youngberg; secretary, Alice Chenoweth; treasurer, Thora Martin; historian, Nell Waldron; guard, Beatrice Crossman."

The stiff fraternity examinations of those days were not relaxing experiences, so after they completed theirs on Friday they found that "some of us were still saying the chapter roll and drawing fraternity pins in our dreams."

On November 17, 1923, at the home of Ariel Thorpe (Jewett), Alpha Phi chapter was installed by Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), National Editor-Historian, assisted by Marion Jellicorse (de Roos), the new Inspector elected at the 1923 convention. The initiates were: Grace Ann Mattern, Isabel Theodosia Risser (Gathany), Miriam Risser, May E. Youngberg, Marguerite Schafer (Belman), Nell Waldron, Ellen Carlson, Elizabeth Soper (Barker), Mary Saunders (Foster), Ruth May Helligas, Ruth Hodgson (Lang), Thora Martin (Baker), Beatrice Crossman (Griffith), Alice Chenoweth (Pate), Margaret Briggs (DeGarmo), Loretta Chenoweth (Adkins), Ariel Thorpe (Jewett), Esther Carlson Evans (Greaves), Sue Bradfield (Harris) and Cecile Vogelbaugh. The visiting Zetas who assisted were Helen Coffey (Carson), Gladys Harrold (Henning), and Aileen Schultz from Tau; Inez Andern, Florence Goede (Bambace), Vina Linstrum (Jamison), Vernetta Davis (Forsythe), from Alpha Kappa; Lorna Packard (Humphrey), Florence Knuth (McKnight), Pauline McMartin, Kathryn Davis (Elton), Olive Pfefferle (Raisch), Bernice Verhulst (Friedholm) of Alpha Iota; Evelyn Allison (Polk), Omega, who was attending Northwestern, and Margaret King, Omega, from the University of Chicago.

The formal banquet that evening was dedicated to Themis. "Our president, Elizabeth Soper, introduced the speakers, each of whom responded to a sub-

ject significant to Themis: 'The Cornucopia,' Esther Carlson; 'The Balance,' Mrs. Strout; 'The Oracle,' Miss Jellicorse; 'The Temple,' Teddy Risser; 'Eridans,' Grace Mattern."

During Sunday afternoon's informal tea, when Professor and Mrs. Kenneth Colegrove held open house for the members of Alpha Phi and their friends, the new Zetas "were thrilled by the admiration which our new pins received and the congratulations of our closest friends."

Then at a very large function "Zeta Tau Alpha presented Alpha Phi chapter to the faculty, fraternities and friends at Northwestern" when they gave a formal reception in Harris Hall, on Monday evening, November 19. "In the receiving line were Elizabeth Soper, Mrs. Strout, Miss Jellicorse, Miss Mattern, Professor and Mrs. Arthur Terry, Dr. Edmund Soper and Professor Colegrove." The heavy attendance attested the regard in which the chapter was held. "We knew our Alma Mater had a place for us and it made us glad to receive from the entire campus a greeting so enthusiastic," they said.

But that wasn't quite all, for "on Thursday, November 22, Alpha Gamma Delta gave a lovely tea honoring the chapter. . . ."

Most appropriately, the group that had achieved its goal had appreciation and acknowledgments to record. "What would we do without our patrons and patronesses?" they asked. "Esther Carlson Evans and Sarah Harris were installed with us. *Patron* and *patroness* seem such stilted words to apply to those of our friends who never fail us, who by their words and deeds have helped us through difficult places, and who by their friendship and interest in us have helped keep our purpose high. These true friends are: Mr. and Mrs. Hodgson, Professor and Mrs. Colegrove, Professor and Mrs. Terry, Mrs. Rufus Dawes and Dr. Edmund Soper. Mrs. Dawes was in California and for that reason was not present during installation." As Alpha Phi recognized, that group was a vital part of their early history and achievement, and no record of those days would be complete without its inclusion.

Nor did they forget special recognition of the one "who has given freely of her time, talent and guidance—Grace Mattern."

When installation was over, is it any wonder that, after such a series of events and such a welcome, it took Alpha Phi a little time to "get back to earth again?"

ALPHA CHI: The expansion scene next shifted to the blue grass section and the state inevitably associated with fast horses, beautiful women and the distillation of spirits that form the principal ingredient in Kentucky's mint juleps—whether or not one is interested in the latter phase of the state's industry and reputation. And Lexington, in the heart of the blue grass region, became a focal point of official cogitation in 1923, because two petitions were received from colleges in that city. Only one could be granted a charter.



Pi Alpha Theta, the group that was finally chosen, held its first meeting in the office of the dean of women of the University of Kentucky. With enrollment not only able to support but needing an additional group, Pi Alpha Theta was founded on April 22, 1922, "with the idea in view of petitioning a national fraternity." Daisy Taylor (Croft), Julia Ross, Bernice Booth (Whaley), Gladys Booth (Clark), Elton Rice and Ruby Lee Dale were the charter members.

Pi Alpha Theta immediately took its place as a participating campus group. "After receiving recognition as a local fraternity from the faculty, Panhellenic and the Student Council, we took Mavis Sternberg as our first pledge," they recorded. "The following year all of the girls returned to college and after a strenuous rushing season three girls were pledged."

At a November party given for them by their patrons they "became interested in Zeta Tau Alpha through Annie Laurie Bass (Marsh), Lambda, an ardent Zeta who had been in Omega chapter's colonizing group." Several meetings were held at her home and after much help and advice from her, they sent their formal petition to Grand Chapter.

Then they found a powerful ally and a distinguished Zeta about whom they had not known previously. "Sometime after our petition had been sent," they wrote, "Mrs. Marsh found from a copy of *Themis* that Bruce Houston Davis, second Grand President of Zeta Tau Alpha, lived in Lexington. Immediately we got in touch with her and she was untiring in her efforts to help us in every possible way. Just to be in close association with such an enthusiastic Zeta was enough to make us work harder for our goal," they asserted. "Another Zeta who helped immensely was Anne Riddell (Anderson), Alpha Epsilon, a senior at the University." The November, 1922, Founders Issue of *Themis* appeared at the opportune moment for the Lexington petitioners.

Bruce Davis did, indeed, give the group strong backing and recommendation and she was one of the first to talk to the inspecting officer of whose impending visit they received word on November 11. Ever to the point, Mrs. Davis made her wishes and preferences abundantly clear. Happy at the thought of being near a college chapter again, she was eager for Zeta Tau Alpha to enter Kentucky. The visiting officer was Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), "whose short stay here was more than enjoyable for us." Actually, the Zeta officer was in Lexington for some time. Perhaps the days just seemed short to the eager girls and enthusiastic alumnæ.

But the next weeks seemed long. "After four months of half-hope and half-fear," they wrote, "on March 27, 1924, we received a telegram that our charter had been granted. The news spread over the campus like wildfire. In the afternoon our house was crowded with friends who had come to rejoice with us." Later "we received word that the National Inspector, Marion Jellicorse (de Roos), would be our installing officer."

Realization lived up to expectations. "Many are the joys experienced when

making plans for installation," they reflected. "Everything was ready when Miss Jellicorse arrived on Monday afternoon, May 5." Pledge services were held that night at the chapter house (for the group already had acquired a home), with Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Marsh and Anne Riddell (Anderson) assisting Miss Jellicorse. "It was inexpressibly beautiful," the new pledges wrote. "We had always thought that our own pledge service was very impressive, but nothing can compare with Zeta pledging, except the initiation. Every single one of us was proud to wear the blue and gray under our little carpenter's square. After pledge service we had a meeting with Miss Jellicorse to discuss plans."

Tuesday morning theirs was the thrill of going to classes "proudly wearing our blue and gray: then we went back to the house and took our examinations. For weeks we had been studying the questions sent us and we went to sleep studying the chapter roll."

That same morning Edith Belle Layman (Kelsay) and Jean Blair (Porter), Zeta, arrived from the University of Tennessee. "In the afternoon the Delta Zetas gave a tea . . . at their chapter house." Later they welcomed Jeanette Bertram (Chapman), Irma Becky (Dieckmann), Betty Reif (Cochran), Jeanette Zettle (Ryan), Lyle Drake (Koch) and Catherine Alexander (Johnson), Alpha Eta, who came from Cincinnati. "That night we had a business meeting."

The chapter's original sponsor generously lent her home for the initiation services which began at eight o'clock, May 7, 1924. Miss Jellicorse was assisted by Mrs. Davis, Anne Riddell (Anderson) and the visitors from Zeta and Alpha Eta chapters. The services at Mrs. Marsh's home were "beautiful and wonderfully impressive. Nothing can ever compare to the dignity of it and all of us will always remember the day we put the shield of Zeta Tau Alpha over our hearts and pledged ourselves to uphold its standards forever."

Alpha Chi's charter members were Bernice Booth (Whaley), Gladys Booth (Clark), Adaline Sanford (Rye), Lucile Arnold (Neal), Genevieve Dunavent (Hinkle), Mary Page Milton, Daisy Taylor (Croft), Glennie B. Fisher (Gilley), Mavis Sternberg (Turley), Kathryn Evans (Mangrum), Hazel Sullivan, Clarette Lewis (Clavette), Louise Smathers (Duff), Mary Riley (Baach), Pauline Ashcraft and Mary Catherine McAlonan. "Four were unable to return for installation because they had moved to other states."

Probably as deeply stirred as the new initiates was Bruce Houston Davis who was seeing, for the first time, the actual unfolding of the initiation ceremony she helped to write.

Leaving the solemnities of initiation and the installation of the chapter, the new Alpha Chis "hurried back to the house to dress for the tea the Kappa Kappa Gammas were having for us at five o'clock. Then we dressed again for our installation banquet," which was held at the Phoenix Hotel. With the chapter president, Glennie B. Fisher, as toastmistress, those responding with toasts built around the theme of "Wish" were: "Toil," Mavis Sternberg; "Hope,"



Bernice Booth; "Fulfillment," Anne Riddell; "The Day of Days," Marion Jelliscorse.

The next day Bruce Davis had the pleasure of entertaining for the new chapter. The delighted girls recorded that she "gave a beautiful tea for us at her home." Spacious and hospitable, the charming Davis home with its gracious hostess, was an ideal setting for an introductory tea. "The guests included our patrons, representatives from the other women's fraternities, the wives of professors and women of the faculty." Mrs. Marsh and Anne Riddell assisted Mrs. Davis.

When the installing officer and the Cincinnati Zetas left that night, the new Kentucky members "went home from the station feeling quite lost without them." Jean Blair (Porter) and Edith Belle Layman (Kelsay) "were the only guests" who could stay for the next afternoon's tea dance which the group had at Patterson Hall. "The end of the dance," they wrote, "was the close of the happiest week of our lives. Everybody was lovely to us. All of the other fraternities sent huge baskets of flowers and our house looked like a bower of roses. The Alpha Gamma Deltas sent blue flower-bowls for our new home."

But while the girls were enjoying the whirl of activities, the former officer who was responsible for Zeta's national status was being oriented all over again into Zeta life.

"I believe I was almost as excited and scared as the petitioning girls when Mrs. Strout came to inspect," she wrote, "for I felt as if she might be inspecting me also. In fact, I did stand in awe of her a little, for it had been such a long time since I had met a Grand Chapter officer. However, we were all delighted and pleased with her and I found my fears had been wholly groundless.

"After inspection came the long wait until we should know about the granting of the petition. Just here occurred a rather interesting incident. My husband, a Delta Tau Delta, was a great help to us during the years when I was the second Grand President. While the girls were petitioning Zeta Tau Alpha, a group of boys was also petitioning Delta Tau Delta. The news that charters had been granted to both came the same week and later we discovered that the installations had been planned for the same week. So both Mr. Davis and I began the renewal of our fraternity life together.

"I have been without a chapter home for a number of years and I do not believe I can really express what it will mean to me to be near an active chapter again, and feel that I can take an active interest in all the work in its different forms.

"Twenty-two years ago I was instrumental in helping in the reorganization of the fraternity and in formulating the initiation service, but I had never seen its actual workings. How vividly our early struggle returned to mind! Now we see accomplished what we once planned and worked to bring about. There may have been minor alterations, but the service is practically the same and I was deeply stirred and thrilled as I saw it develop. . . ."



Thus, in a sea of telegrams, notes and congratulations, and in the presence of the fraternity's Senior Past President, Zeta Tau Alpha became the seventh women's fraternity at the University of Kentucky. It was the fraternity's first installation in the state.

ALPHA PSI: Six stately vine-covered columns have long been a symbol of the University of Missouri, where, in the fall of 1922, a Drury Zeta found herself the lone one of her kind on a campus where Zeta Tau Alpha was not represented, and decided to take remedial steps. The oldest land grant university west of the Mississippi River needed a Zeta chapter—so Adelaide Hazeltine (Jones), Mu, thought. And she was correct from several angles, including the fact that the enrollment was abundantly able to support another organization.

When the new chapter was introduced in *Themis*, Lois Chamberlain (Stout) gave credit where credit was due. "Alpha Psi chapter," she wrote, "owes her existence to the unselfish and interested work of Adelaide Hazeltine," who came to Columbia in the fall of 1922, a junior from Mu chapter. "She saw the need of a chapter and at once began to look for girls whom she thought worthy of Zeta." It did not take her long to gather together the "small group of congenial girls" who organized on December 4, 1922, under the name of Pi Beta Tau.

Organization was, of course, for the express purpose of petitioning Zeta Tau Alpha "and the members were selected with that end in view." The first girl chosen for the new chapter was Edith Payne; then one by one members were added. "Each girl was pledged not only to Pi Beta Tau but to the purpose of becoming a Zeta Tau Alpha. She was initiated to work toward this same ideal." With Adelaide Hazeltine (Jones), the founders were Edith Payne (Stewart) and Margaret Miller (Jacoby).

As had been true with other petitioning groups, the close cooperation and devoted interest of helpful patronesses was a prominent factor in Pi Beta Tau's development and success. In fact, "much of the success of the group depended upon the efforts of Mrs. Eulalie Alexander, the first patroness," the chapter wrote. "We benefited always by her wise guidance and mature judgment." The other patronesses were Mrs. William Duncel, Mrs. T. J. Talbert, Mrs. E. R. Childers, Mrs. M. G. Mehl and Mrs. Mary McKay.

With dispatch "a system of committees and activities was inaugurated and each girl had a definite responsibility. We kept most of our plans and hopes within our own circle," they confided. "The dean of women was one of our first advisers and at her suggestion we did not announce the group on the campus.

"Pi Beta Tau did not lose its vision. We had one aim—to become a Zeta Tau Alpha chapter. We talked it, we thought it, we lived it. We were organized under a workable constitution and by-laws, many of which are to be put into our by-laws now," they wrote after installation. "We designed a pledge and

initiation service that made our organization more complete. We had weekly meetings from the first."

From December to June, organization developed and the group grew. In June they were ready to send their petition to Grand Chapter. It reached the Council just at convention time. A month later, though, Pi Beta Tau received word that inspection probably would take place the following year.

When college opened that fall, Edna Marie Johnson, Alpha Alpha, joined them. "We pledged many more girls and started a successful year," they reported. Then three of their patronesses became honorary members when they pledged and initiated Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Mehl and Mrs. Childers. Thus 1923 went by, with the group increasing its strength and position.

Then, "in the middle of February word came that the National Editor-Historian, Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), would come to inspect Pi Beta Tau." They declared with feeling that "anyone who has been a member of a petitioning group knows what that news meant. There were called meetings, plans and hopes. Seven days after we learned about the inspecting officer's visit we had a telegram announcing that she would arrive three days later. There were more meetings, serious, happy, excited ones."

The evident seriousness of both the aspirants and the visiting officer was eloquently reflected in after-inspection expressions. "There is no word that adequately describes the feeling that an inspection creates," they confided. "You know that the outcome of the work of months hangs in the balance of moments. There were times . . . when our hopes rose—and there were other times. We learned then, more fully than ever, that the establishment of a chapter is not a matter of weeks or months, but aside from the hopes and fears that an inspection invariably brings, we caught new enthusiasm and inspiration. When our visitor left we knew that no matter what the decision of Grand Chapter might be, we were much the richer for the visit of such a national officer."

"Of course," they added quite honestly, "we did not remember everything we were told at inspection time, but not a member of Pi Beta Tau forgot—or ever will forget—ten words that she spoke that night." Preparing them for the eventuality of a long wait ahead, the inspecting officer gave them an admonition that they "repeated over and over again in the days that followed." It was nothing more than the "old adage that 'no news is good news,' but somehow it revived our questioning hopes," they recalled.

"Far from certain, and entertaining no assurance of victory, we waited . . . but we were busy because we found many things to be done. Nevertheless we learned what it meant to wait and to wonder. . . . Each day we thought that perhaps today would be *the* day.

"Then one day it *was* the day." The announcement telegram that characterized that era's procedure arrived early one morning, after which "the telephone

buzzed and happy girls told other happy girls three words, 'the charter's granted.'"

A year and a half after the group was organized in December, 1922, the National Inspector, Marion Jellicorse (de Roos), arrived on May 20 to install Alpha Psi chapter. "Pledging was held the first night." Following examinations the next day, Panhellenic entertained the budding Zetas "with an announcement tea at the home of the dean of women, Mrs. Bessie Leach Priddy." With pride the chapter explained that "this is the first time in the history of the local Panhellenic that it has ever announced a new national." Meanwhile, Elizabeth Carruth (Axley) and Isabel Dooley, Epsilon, arrived from the University of Arkansas, and Dorothy Call, Mu, came from Drury College for the ceremonies.

When their day of days arrived they wrote that "installation day is not like any other day in the life of a chapter. In the words of Miss Jellicorse, 'May 22 ceases to be just a day to those who wear Zeta pins for the first time.' It became an event, a period in history. It stood for the realization of the dream . . . of every girl present. It was a day of fulfillment."

Thus with their heads in the clouds and their hearts brimming over with happiness, twenty-five members were initiated at the home of Edith Payne (Stewart) on May 22, 1924. The three visiting Zetas and Adelaide Hazeltine (Jones) assisted the installing officer. Initiated were: Eulalie Campbell (Alexander); Lucy Jane Hull (Mehl), Mabel Schultz (Childers), Edith Payne (Stewart), Margaret Miller (Jacoby), Willie Bloomer (Johnston), Alice Wilhite (Conway), Lovenia Phillips, Ellen Mitchell (Lippman), Mary Sheets (Magee), Aline Wardlow (Phillips), Susannah Myers (Bernet), Lucille Boone, Helen Brown (Barco), Zella Brown (Ragsdale), Mildred Scott, Alice Lewis, Mary Ellen Steckman, Winifred Amery (Garten), Ruth Alberti (Pyle), Ruth Knight (Wangerin), Mildred Knox (Schrader), Magdalen Knox (Smith), Harriet Crauens and Lois Chamberlain (Stout).

Initiation and the presentation of the charter were followed "by Alpha Psi's first banquet." Appropriately the toastmistress was the key-girl-founder, Adelaide Hazeltine, whose goal was reached that day. Carrying out the theme of a Zeta garden the toasts were: "The Garden Gate," Margaret Miller; "White Violet Beds," Mildred Knox, Alpha Psi's new president; "Over the Wall," Mary Asbury McKay; "Alpha Psi," Marion Jellicorse.

"Not until we gathered at the banquet with twenty-five new Zeta pins shining in the light did we really realize that Alpha Psi had been born," they marvelled. "On the calendar of our college careers we marked in red the date that others knew as May 22.

"On Friday we had model ritual and our first business meeting, then at midnight Miss Jellicorse left." Launched, they were suddenly a new chapter bearing a new but coveted name, with a place to carve on the Missouri campus where thirteen well-established women's groups already existed.



Recalling the events of the past months they reflected that "one of the most fortunate things about an installation group is the advantage of contact with grand officers. The two whom we learned to know, admire and love remain as delightful memories to every girl in the chapter. Their words will be heard as long as one of the installation group is in the university—while their influence will be passed down to those who did not have the privilege of meeting them in person."

Alpha Psi became Zeta Tau Alpha's second chapter in the state of Missouri.

**ALPHA OMEGA:** From Missouri the scene shifted back to the state of Ohio, where, on October 18, 1922, "a joint committee of faculty and trustees drew up rules under which women's fraternities were to be admitted to the Ohio Wesleyan campus." Men's fraternities had long played a prominent part on the Delaware campus, but the few groups for women were banned early in the 1880's, so from that date until 1922, women's Greek-letter groups were non-existent.

The ensuing feverish activity could almost be said to have spanned the years, for in a few short weeks thirteen groups were ready for official recognition. Among the thirteen was the group that was to become Zeta's Alpha Omega chapter. Of their start they explained that, "as the different groups of girls assembled in order to organize themselves for recognition by the faculty, there was one group which, on October 23, sent a petition asking to be known as Gamma Psi Delta." Those signing the petition were Ruth Bachmeyer, Juanita Bullock, Ella Siddall, Lavern Sauvey, Grace Robinson, Phyllis Kendall, Adelaide Kolbe (Prescott), Clarice Henderson (Cooney) and Kathryn Woodburn (Calhoun).

On December 16, the faculty officially recognized the thirteen groups, among them Gamma Psi Delta, who started life with a definite purpose: the promotion of culture, high ideals and wholesome social life among the students.

The girls felt proud of their progress when they were able to report that "soon after this, six new girls were pledged and initiated and these eighteen spent their time in organizing and building up the society until the rushing season of April 6-16." New at rushing, they emerged both satisfied and gratified. Since "there were but a small percentage of girls being rushed, Gamma Psi Delta was very proud to claim thirteen new pledges—one junior, four sophomores and eight freshmen. The five upperclassmen were initiated on May 14 and Gamma Psi Delta now felt in a position to petition a national fraternity."

They made their decision as to which national they wanted and "accordingly the scrapbook and petition were made up and the girls decided to do all in their power toward becoming Zeta Tau Alphas." When Iva Brashear, Theta, was their guest during commencement, "their acquaintance with her made them all the more eager to secure a national charter." Then Gladys Palmer, Alpha

Pi, a member of the Ohio Wesleyan faculty, "was also very kind in advising the girls in their attempts to better their organization."

When the Gamma Psi Deltas returned to college in September, 1923, they "again rallied their forces and at first felt rather lost without the thirteen girls who had graduated the previous June." While the loss of thirteen seniors depleted their ranks considerably, they took it in their stride and merely commented that "with the initiation of seven pledges in November and the cooperation of the girls in all things, the organization grew stronger and, may we say, prospered."

"Waiting" was a word that recurred with unmistakable impact in every chapter history of this period. It now made its appearance in Alpha Omega's records. "Then began the long but busy weeks of waiting for word from Zeta Tau Alpha," they wrote. "Our reward came in the form of an inspection on Wednesday, January 16, 1924, by Ethel Charnock, Grand Secretary-Treasurer. Excitement reigned and how we hoped—though rather skeptically, I am afraid—that our efforts might not have been in vain!"

An easing of that skepticism is sensed when, "after a dinner party, a tea, and just good heart-to-heart talks with Miss Charnock, we decided that there couldn't be a 'better fraternity in the world.'" When their visitor left they "went back to work encouraged and joyful in our inspiration to continue trying to 'measure up.'"

Then, "more weeks of wondering, of hoping and of working followed. Other groups were inspected and nationals were being installed at Ohio Wesleyan. To us it seemed as though the weeks were months and the first question in the mind of every Gamma Psi Delta was, 'Will today's mail bring any word from Zeta Tau Alpha?' And then—well, they tell of the 'thrills that come once in a lifetime'—we are wondering whether any such sensation as we felt when our president came running up to tell us that our charter had been granted can ever be experienced again—no matter how many pleasant things may come to us in life. At any rate such was our glorious surprise on Wednesday, May 21, 1924." Not only that, but installation was imminent, for they soon received word that the date had been set for May 29.

That did not allow much time for preparation but, unperturbed, they described themselves as "happy, busy girls . . . the week following the good news. . . . Midnight oil burned aplenty as we prepared the answers to the examination questions to be sent to the alumnæ. Letters came from them, too, expressing their joy at our success and toward the end of the week they came back . . . to be initiated into the fraternity which had for so many months seemed a dream too lofty for realization."

Pledging services were held on May 29 "for twenty-two anxious and expectant candidates, who were proud to wear their squares of blue and gray for two days on the Ohio Wesleyan campus. After the pledging services we

spent as long as 'permission' allowed getting acquainted with Miss Jellicorse and renewing our friendship with Miss Charnock and Miss Brashear. We were also glad to have Angella Woods (Sharpe), Alpha Pi, with us. . . ."

That Alpha Omega was another chapter upon which fraternity examinations had their impact was illustrated in their reference to the "memorable day of Friday. Of course, we refer to those examinations. All nooks and corners were filled with girls studying and rehearsing the chapter roll. In the afternoon we took them and about six o'clock we emerged from our labors with that tired but joyous feeling of having done our best.

"On Saturday morning initiation services began bright and early," they wrote. On May 31, 1924, Alpha Omega was installed by Marion Jellicorse (de Roos), National Inspector; Ethel Charnock, Grand Secretary-Treasurer, and Iva Brashear, Theta; assisted by members of Alpha Pi and Alpha Zeta. The charter members were: Ruth Bachmeyer, Phyllis Kendall, Genevieve Sauvey, Clarice Henderson (Cooney), Ella Siddall, Marie Drake (Tiffany), Grace Robinson (Ralston), Juanita Bullock, Kathleen Leedom, Louise Poinier (Faus), Kathryn Woodburn (Calhoun), Margaret Snodgrass (Lindgren), Dorothy Jenkins, Dorothy Herbert, Ruth Rice (Miller), Louise Koester (Keller), Gladys Ferris (Fewell), Dorothy Black (Hamill), Ollire Henders (Hansen), Bernice Price, Mildred Kissner (White) and Thelma Smith.

Finding inspiration in the ceremony, "life seemed to take on a bigger, broader and fuller meaning as we pledged ourselves to become followers of the ideals of our new but already beloved fraternity," Louise Koester wrote.

"A happy group of about forty, initiates and guests, enjoyed the formal banquet served that evening at the American Legion Hall. The 'preps' had shown themselves loyal as well as skilful in decorating the hall and tables, where the guests listened to the following toasts: 'Our History,' Ruth Bachmeyer; 'Our Shield,' Ethel Charnock; 'Our Fraternity,' Iva Brashear; 'To Zeta Tau Alpha,' Gladys Ferris."

The event-packed day was climaxed by the formal reception which followed at the Chi Phi fraternity house where the "girls were happy hostesses and appreciated the kind congratulations which were extended by faculty members and other fraternities on the campus." To them "the entire day had meant the introduction of a new spirit of loyalty and cooperation into our hearts," and understandably, after the strenuous program of that memorable day, "we parted that night, tired but happy." And since that kind of a secret was the kind to be told, they confided in print that "every one of us wore our pins to bed that night—and even weeks after. . . ."

When Sunday's conferences with the visiting officers were over and the business part was completed, they exulted that "we gave ourselves over to the pure joy of our new happiness as true sisters together," and they were "reluctant to give up these guests who had brought us so much. . . ."



During her few months of local existence Gamma Psi Delta won many honors. "She had a large number of brilliant girls who were among the outstanding members of their respective classes. Through their work and earnest devotion, they made Gamma Psi Delta one of the best fraternities at Ohio Wesleyan."

Zeta Tau Alpha was the eleventh national fraternity to be installed on the campus, for, even though organization permission was not granted until late in 1922, Ohio Wesleyan University was considered so desirable a field by national organizations that they placed chapters there with unusual speed. Groups had chapter rooms, for "when national groups were admitted it was with the understanding that houses would not be permitted."

Alpha Omega became Zeta Tau Alpha's third chapter in the state of Ohio, all being added in this third decade.

**BETA ALPHA:** Swinging farther east, the next chapter, and the first one in the Beta series, was placed in the nation's capital.

A new order was ushered in and a new trend was introduced "when, on November 5, 1920, a small group of girls at George Washington University organized the local sorority, Gamma Delta Rho." They established a new order when they drew upon the Law School for their members. Up to that time fraternity membership had been confined to "girls registered in the arts and sciences department, but we believed that much good material could be drawn from the rapidly increasing number of girls in the Law School," wrote Beatrice Clephane, the chapter's first historian. It was also their hope that "the whole university would profit by the unity of interest thus created."

Verna Short (Danis), Mildred Callahan (Stanley), Lois McDaris (Cornell) and Olive Geiger (Faircloth) were Gamma Delta Rho's founders, but it was not long before they initiated Hazel Newton (Monahan) and Lucile Proctor "and furnished a room in blue and bronze, the sorority colors, in one of the university buildings where most of the other sororities had their headquarters."

In these rooms they held regular business meetings, "as well as frequent suppers and get-togethers." By February they felt themselves "sufficiently organized" to give their first official party at which they offered hospitality unlimited, for "all members of the university, both student and faculty, were invited" to their open house, held at the Sigma Nu house. They were "greatly pleased at the response. It meant a great deal to us to know that we have always been welcome on the campus," they said, after it was over.

In the fall of 1922, Gamma Delta Rho was admitted to the local Panhellenic Association and they "felt highly honored when Verna Short, their president, was the toastmistress at the annual spring Panhellenic scholarship luncheon."

It is significant that, by this time, "most of the other sororities" were following their example and were extending bids to girls in all departments. It seems in-

conceivable that until Gamma Delta Rho's formation the brilliant girls in the Law School were excluded from George Washington groups, but as soon as Gamma Delta Rho pioneered in broadening the field, the others were quick to follow. "Through the successful working out of this policy," Beta Alpha's historian related, "and by means of the prominence in school activities of most of our girls, we became well known on the campus and we felt that we were strong enough to consider petitioning a national fraternity.

"About that time Lucile Proctor returned from the University of Pittsburgh where she played in an intercollegiate basketball game." The rest may be easily surmised. The visiting players were entertained in the Pittsburgh Zeta house and when Lucile Proctor returned, she was "very enthusiastic about the Zeta Tau Alphas. Her account of them was one of the most important factors in influencing our final decision to direct every energy toward obtaining a charter from Zeta Tau Alpha," the chapter related.

Their minds made up, early in 1923 they "started work on the scrapbook," which, in those days, accompanied the formal petition. Its contrivance was left to the ingenuity of the petitioners, but it always contained such standard things as individual pictures of the group's members, letters of recommendation, and so on. Thus the Council member passing judgment virtually had a pictorial record before her as she studied the group and its petition. With true professional skill, Gamma Delta Rho worked hard on hers. "As the time for Zeta Tau Alpha's triennial convention approached, groups met each day to paste, cut and plan." Then "finally the book which had come to be so much a part of each one of us was prayerfully wrapped, insured and sent by special delivery."

The next steps would take time, so there "followed a summer of anxious waiting when we learned why patience is a virtue hard to attain," they admitted. "But our striving was rewarded when in October we received a telegram saying that the National Editor-Historian was coming to inspect us."

After that, things moved swiftly. The officer arrived the following evening and the chapter reported that the first day was spent in conferences with President William Mather Lewis, the dean of women and two of the departmental deans. They met her as a group "that evening when she attended our regular business meeting." Ever mindful of their legal training and their desire to be letter perfect, one of the lawyer-members commented that "it was hard to remember Robert's *Rules of Order* while under the spell of her quiet charm and dignity, but we did our best," and undoubtedly Mr. Robert won.

Not unexpectedly, it was an inspection such as could take place only in Washington. On the schedule was "Mount Vernon and some of the wonders of our national capital." They "arranged for a meeting with the President at the White House," when Calvin Coolidge was the incumbent. "The following day there were more conferences, this time with the heads of student organizations, followed by a tea given by the dean of women and an evening meeting in the

inspecting officer's room at the Hotel Lafayette to discuss the problems confronting our group." Her visit concluded with an informal reception which their families attended, at the home of Beatrice Clephane, in Chevy Chase, Maryland. More eager than ever for a charter, the group knew that acceptance would constitute endorsement that they had met the high standards of the organization and the inspecting officer.

They realized this when they wrote that there followed "another period of suspense, not, however, unmarked by achievement on our part. Mrs. Strout's visit had been such an inspiration that we redoubled our efforts to make Gamma Delta Rho rank high in our college world. Last year marked the beginning of the George Washington University endowment drive, and to Frances Randolph went the distinction of winning the Sphinx cup awarded to the undergraduate obtaining the greatest amount in individual subscriptions. This cup occupies one end of the mantel in our new fraternity rooms. On the other end is the Panhellenic cup awarded [us] last May for ranking first in scholarship among the ten sororities on the campus."

Then a few days after they received the scholarship cup "came . . . word that Zeta Tau Alpha had granted our petition . . . and we spent the summer in happy anticipation of exchanging the much-loved shield of Gamma Delta Rho for the even more significant shield of Zeta Tau Alpha."

During Gamma Delta Rho's four years of existence its members were known for their activities. In 1922 Lucile Proctor played on the varsity basketball team. In the fall of 1923, Beatrice Clephane was elected president of the Law School Senate, the student governing body. Hazel Newton (Monahan) was the only woman representative of the junior class. When the endowment drive started early in 1924, Sarah French Smith (Halloran), the only woman appointed to the central committee, was elected secretary. In the fall of 1924, Marion Campbell (Close) was elected president of the George Washington Players, while Hester Beall (Provinsen) was secretary of the senior law class, the only class office held by a woman.

It meant a great deal to them that "installation [took] place just four years after the founding" of their local organization. They felt honored that the National President came to Washington and they welcomed the return of the National Editor-Historian for "we feel that we owe the realization of our goal to the constructive criticism and suggestions she gave us at the time of inspection."

Meeting with the two officers Thursday evening, November 6, in their rooms at the Hotel Lafayette, they discussed "installation plans and the fraternity world in general in preparation for examinations the following day."

The spacious, hospitable Chevy Chase home of Beatrice Clephane was an ideal setting for the pledge services Friday evening. Marion Holmes (Jones) and Nora Thompson, Alpha Beta, arrived just in time to participate. Several Washington alumnae were also present.



Unlike some of the other groups, the Washington Zetas were not to have the thrill of wearing their pledge pins on the campus even a full day, for, "on Saturday morning, November 8, we again arrayed ourselves in white and went, full of eager anticipation, to the Theta Upsilon Omega fraternity house where installation was held."

The services were in charge of Alpha Burkart (Wettach), Grand President, and Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), assisted by Nora Thompson and Marion Holmes (Jones) of the Philadelphia Alumnae chapter. "Three members of Delta were present for part of the ceremony, which lasted practically all day," Beta Alpha recounted. "At noon the girls who were still wearing their pledge pins were asked to act as 'goats' and serve luncheon. Immediately afterwards the ceremony was resumed. Never once did our installing officers show the weariness they must have felt, and the last girl was initiated with the same beauty and dignity as the first. It was a day we shall never forget, and mere words cannot express its significance in the lives of each one of us."

Those initiated that day were: Christel Bangerter (Schrader), Beatrice Clephane, Hester Beall (Provinsen), Katherine Bennett (Silcox), Pauline Bruner (McCallum), Marion Campbell (Close), Ruth Daniel (Dow), Marie Didden (Knighton), Lucile Proctor, Eleanor Marron, Elizabeth Masterson (Britton), Hazel Newton (Monahan), Frances Randolph (Weber), Virginia Ronsaville, Helen Shaw (Ferris), Dale Hoffman, Ada Swigart (Hess), Mildred Callahan (Stanley), Olive Geiger (Faircloth); Verna Short (Danis) and Sara French Smith (Halloran). Lois McDaris (Cornell), whose name appears on the charter, was not living in Washington at that time, but was initiated by Mu several months later.

"The same red-letter day marked the installation of Beta Alpha's new officers: Ada Swigart, president; Eleanor Marron, vice-president; Marion Campbell, secretary; Hester Beall, treasurer, and Beatrice Clephane, historian."

Lovely was the installation banquet held that evening at the Columbia Country Club. Verna Short acted as toastmistress. Toasts were responded to by Mrs. Wettach, Mrs. Strout, Ada Swigart, Frances Randolph and Mrs. Harris, who spoke on behalf of the Washington Alumnae. Talented Hester Beall gave several short readings and the program concluded with a Zeta song by Pauline Bruner, accompanied by Virginia Ronsaville. In addition to the visiting officers and members, "the following were Beta Alpha's banquet guests: Harriet Hawkins (Chambers), Beta; Lida Smith (Mayo), Delta; Frances Jones (Pool), Zeta; Edna McMaster (Harris), Theta; Eleanor Scott (Jarrett), Theta; Angie Vaiden (Maupin), Theta, and Harriet Price, Tau.

Functions continued, fêting the new Zetas. On Sunday the Washington Alumnae honored them with a tea given at the clubhouse of the National League of American Penwomen. "Throughout the anxious period between inspection and installation, the members of this chapter have been our staunch

friends and every Beta Alpha is deeply grateful . . .," the chapter acknowledged.

Next, "the Panhellenic tea welcoming the new national was held Monday afternoon. Mrs. Wettach, Mrs. Strout, Dean Anna L. Rose, Ada Swigart and Marguerite Daly, Panhellenic president, received. The room was decorated in turquoise blue and gray, and Beta Alpha's new Zeta banner was proudly displayed for the first time. Many faculty wives were present, and the other women's fraternities were well represented.

"The installation festivities were concluded with a dance at the Theta Upsilon Omega house on Monday evening, when our rushees had the opportunity to meet the two visiting officers." Hopefully they added, "We know that their presence will help us greatly in securing the girls we want."

After four years of effort, the Washington group's goal had been reached. "Sorrowful at their departure," they said goodbye to the two installing officers, "but through the inspiration they afforded we hope to remain loyal to the vows we have made as the forty-ninth link in Zeta Tau Alpha's mystic chain," they promised. Zeta was the eighth national fraternity for women on the campus.

BETA BETA: Late in November, 1923, "the ivy-covered walls" of historic Dickinson College became the home of Zeta Tau Alpha's Beta Beta chapter, her third in the state of Pennsylvania. And again it was a faculty-sponsored group.

With the encouragement of Dickinson's dean of women, Mrs. Josephine Meredith, "several girls met and organized the Zeta Eta Phi fraternity in Belles Lettres Hall, on May 5, 1921. With only three women's fraternities on the campus, another one was needed, and the hand-picked girls selected to found Zeta Eta Phi were: Frances Iley (Poff), Edith Hoover, Evelyn Wardle, Zora Goodman (Thompson), Elizabeth Jones, Janet Kelley, Naomi Michael (Snoke) and Esther Riegel (Long).

"The fraternity was formed with the idea in view of petitioning a national, and after careful consideration, Zeta Tau Alpha was decided upon." Their stated purpose was: "To cooperate with the college in all efforts to improve scholarship and social standing, to maintain a high moral standard for every member, and to broaden the interests of every member and encourage her in the pursuit of a worthy vocation." They were solid college citizens, those purposeful Pennsylvanians.

"This group of girls," it was later written, "together with their new initiates, early displayed traits of strong character and leadership. They were elected to many offices of responsibility in the student government, in literary societies and other college activities." Frances Iley and Evelyn Wardle wore Phi Beta Kappa keys and the latter was valedictorian of her class. The Zeta Eta Phis soon became a moving force on the campus.

The year after founding, three freshmen, Anna Makibbin, Violet Blauvelt and Amanda Wertz, were pledged and initiated. "From that time on the fra-



ternity grew steadily in numbers and became better organized." In the spring of 1923, they petitioned Zeta Tau Alpha for a charter.

Following their first inspection, which was made by the National Editor-Historian, Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), on October 25-28, 1923, the chapter wrote: "Although we had always had a very definite goal in mind, up to the time of this inspection our plans for attaining that goal had not been worked out in all details. When Mrs. Strout left us, our program of activity was no longer hazy but well formulated and clearly understood by each one of us. We now realized just what we would have to do in order to meet the requirements of Zeta Tau Alpha."

Following the pattern set by the inspecting officer, the group worked faithfully the next few months to perfect their organization and meet specific standards. It was a challenging time, but one of opportunity to which the chapter rose. And sincerity and persistence were their own reward, for in February, 1924, the group was granted another inspection.

Although the National Inspector, Marion Jellicorse (deRoos) "arrived during Washington's Birthday vacation," all members returned to meet with her on February 23-24. It was another profitable visit. They "learned more of the standards and ideals of Zeta Tau Alpha" and during the remainder of the year "they endeavored to carry out the suggestions made by both Mrs. Strout and Miss Jellicorse."

While they waited for a definite answer to their petition they "kept in close touch with the grand officers" and strove to achieve the standards set before them. Again, devotion to their purpose was rewarded. "Our happiness upon receiving the telegram of our charter grant was so great that it seemed as if it couldn't be true," they exclaimed, "but it was. Zeta Eta Phi was to give place to Beta Beta chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha."

Installation was set for the fall. "November 19-22 are red-letter days in the memory of every girl in Beta Beta," they declared, "for they mark the time of our installation into that best of all fraternities. We had all looked forward to this event with great happiness, but when we learned that Mrs. Wettach, the Grand President, and Mrs. Strout . . . would officiate, our joy was greater than ever.

"The installation program began Wednesday afternoon with the arrival of our grand officers. That same evening a beautiful and impressive pledging service was held at the home of Mrs. Wetzel, one of our patronesses. When the carpenter's square and the turquoise blue and gray ribbons were pinned over our hearts we had a glimpse of what Zeta Tau Alpha would mean to us. . . ." Since they had worked so long and so sincerely, this meant the achievement of something personal and inspiring to each girl. To each it was a personal triumph she was never to forget.

The next day was given over to examinations, "when every girl displayed



her knowledge of the chapter roll, fraternity pins and the *Sorority Handbook*." That evening there was an informal meeting in the chapter rooms with the visiting officers. At this time they were proud to show their new apartment in one of Carlisle's lovely old homes.

Initiation and formal installation of the chapter took place on Friday, November 21, 1924, at the home of Professor Frederick Mohler and Mrs. Mohler, which was graciously offered for the occasion. "As the beautiful, solemn services were held, we all determined that we would live up to the ideals of Zeta Tau Alpha and make her proud of us," the new Beta Betas asserted. The ceremonies were conducted by the Grand President, Alpha Burkart (Wettach), and the Grand Editor-Historian, Shirley Kresan Krieg (Strout), assisted by Elizabeth Thompson (Shopp) and Gertrude Guion, Alpha Beta, who came from the University of Philadelphia for the event.

The charter members were: Esther Riegel (Long), Janet Kelley, Irmela Witke, Louise Wert (Smith), Elizabeth Hurst (Collins), Amanda Wertz (Soule), Gertrude Klemm, Kathryn Oberholtzer (Halsey), Eleanor Klemm, Mary Baum, Violet Blauvelt (Duryea), Anna Makibbin (Preble), Thelma Nickey (Hall), Mary Pass (Bay), Luella Pentz, Erma Porteus (Brock), Dorothy Valiant, Erma Baird (Francisco), Esther Pryor, Carolyn Gardner (Hubach), Mildred McCormick (Harris), Alma Moyer (Sieck), Margaret Patterson (Crumbling), Ruth Riegel (Woods), Isabelle Hoover and Irene Oberholtzer (Simes).

Climaxing the day-long ceremonies was the installation banquet held at the Hotel Carlisle. "Just as the ancient Greeks cemented the bonds of friendship by dining together, so [we] confirmed our sisterhood in this manner," the chapter wrote. With Violet Blauvelt as the toastmistress, "responses were made by: Dean Meredith on 'To Dickinson'; Mrs. Wettach on 'To Zeta Tau Alpha'; Mrs. Strout on 'To Beta Beta Chapter'; Erma Porteus on 'Zeta Ideals' and Irmela Witke on 'To Our Guests.'"

In the dignified colonial setting of historic West Hall, Zeta Tau Alpha's introductory reception was held Saturday afternoon in the building's lovely Memorial Hall. The campus came to extend their best wishes. "Mrs. Wettach, Mrs. Strout, Mrs. Morgan (the wife of Dickinson's president), Dean Meredith and Elizabeth Hurst received our many friends," they related happily.

In a few days the work of years was woven into a success pattern spelled ZTA for the Carlisle girls. "Immediately after the reception Mrs. Wettach left for her home in North Carolina, and a few hours later Mrs. Strout started for Farmville, Virginia." It was over, but Beta Beta chapter was an established link in Zeta Tau Alpha, and the fourth national fraternity for women on the campus of Dickinson College.

**BETA GAMMA:** The epochal expansion year of 1924 was ending as the fraternity turned its eyes to an entirely new territory and made its fifty-second

charter grant to a group at the then Florida State College for Women,\* in Tallahassee—Zeta's first grant in that state.

Recurring again and again, and woven closely into the pattern of the chapter saga, are the mounting instances in which devoted alumnæ were responsible for new chapters, either through direct organization or having been the inspiration for the choice of Zeta as a national to petition. That inspiring story repeated itself at Tallahassee where Helen Gene Cantrell (Ross), Tau, a member of the college's music faculty, provided the "inspiration and guidance for Phi Epsilon," which was formed with her assistance.

"Phi Epsilon itself," wrote Mary Stallings, "was organized with the aid of Miss Cantrell in the fall of 1922, with the idea of petitioning Zeta Tau Alpha. The members of this original group were Miriam McCall (Horne), Ann Laird (Minear), Anna Belle Wesson (Selman), Thelma Smith (Saunders), Marie Yon (Von Kessler), Lucile Reece (Roberts) and Elizabeth Parker (Cobb)."

Although Zeta Tau Alpha was their goal from the first, they completed their local organization right down to the last accoutrement. "Before Christmas, the flower, colors, motto, constitution and other similar 'necessities' were adopted," their historian related. The first four notes of "Two Eyes of Blue," from "Smilin' Through," was the inspiration for the whistle they used for two years.

In January, 1923, Phi Epsilon's two representatives were admitted as voting members of the local Panhellenic, while Frances Walker and Mary Stallings were pledged in February. And about that time they finished their formal petition and scrapbook for submission to Zeta's Grand Chapter.

Understandably gratified over that accomplishment, they nevertheless "worked harder than ever after that to live up to the purpose expressed in our constitution: 'to make ourselves worthy of membership in a national fraternity.'" They also announced five patronesses, including Miss Harter. Meanwhile they "looked continually for strong new girls and soon could claim Elizabeth Cooper and Estelle Jones."

And life was pleasant in pleasant Florida for "the spring of 1923 was a very 'partified' one" for them. "Mesdames Parks and Proctor (patronesses) entertained us at Lake Bradford with the nicest of swimming parties," they wrote, "while Mrs. Scott had us for an all-day party at 'Boston Plantation,' her southern estate. We also entertained frequently, and one of our loveliest parties was the tea which we gave for our patronesses and fraternity friends."

Their three seniors, Anna Belle, Marie and Anna, graduated, but September "found all returned except Elizabeth Parker (Cobb), Elizabeth Mann (Hunt) and Miss Cantrell." Until that time their weekly meetings had been held in Miss Cantrell's studio, but now that they needed a chapter room of their own the college gave them "a cozy little room in East Cottage."

After that "Mrs. Reece and Miss Tracy soon became patronesses and helped

\* It later became Florida State University.

us, as did our 'old' patronesses, with our big rushing party which we gave at Mrs. Proctor's." They considered their "Party of the Seasons" a success and on pledge day, December 3, Elinor Lott (Green), Maxine Wyatt (Massey), Margaret Wood (Fulmer), Audrey Sims (Swindell), Mary Margaret Swift (Emmons), Edith Robertson (Johnson) and Evelyn Hill (Brown) "wore Phi Epsilon's purple and grey pledge ribbons." There was a Christmas party for them before they went home for the holidays.

Then dawned 1924—"the year of the fulfillment of our dreams"—and it began with the pledging of Edith McCollum and Elizabeth Randolph. In March, Phi Epsilon's pledges entertained the other fraternity pledges "but it was in April that the big event of the spring occurred.

"Marion Jellicorse (de Roos), the long-awaited Zeta Inspector arrived, and the days which we had half-anticipated, yet dreaded a little, became rather days of pleasure. . . . Our formal tea at the Kappa Delta house, our 'not-so-formal' banquet at the Three Torches, our model business meeting, in fact the many, many things of inspection seem like a dream now. The four days passed quickly." In that time the visiting officer gave them "many helpful ideas" and left them "more appreciative of the love, work and ideals of Zeta Tau Alpha. . . ."

Then before the end of the college year they pledged Mildred Harter, a member of the music faculty, and Olivi Corbett, initiating them and Edith Robertson a week later in their third initiation of the year.

Anna Belle Wesson returned in September as an assistant in the college business office, while soon after, Helen Hyers, Edith McCollum and Mary Margaret Swift replaced Lucile Reece, Mary Stallings and Elizabeth Cooper in Panhellenic. On Phi Epsilon's last pledge day, September 29, they added six pledges.

Imbued with the zeal to do they "worked harder than ever to improve Phi Epsilon so that someday she might form a strong link in the chain of Zeta Tau Alpha," they wrote. "Our constitution was revised; our meetings were helped by the introduction of short devotional exercises. . . . We knew our pledges better through parties held every two weeks."

Joanna Mizell was pledged in October and the Florida petitioners had the pleasure of meeting another Zeta when Iva Brashear stopped for a short visit on her way to St. Petersburg. Adjourning *en masse* to Flastacowo, Florida State's camp at Lake Bradford, they spent an enjoyable week end in November.

They pledged Anna Jane Anderson (Macklin), Winifred Lee and Mary Ruth Fain on Thanksgiving Day "so ten pledges of Phi Epsilon attended the combined pledge party—a big masked dance—held at the Alpha Delta Pi house early in December." When, on December 4, they received the charter-grant telegram they were "happy—wonderfully so. And our happiness was increased by the congratulations and expressions of good will . . . that were showered upon us by all the fraternities, the faculty members, in fact, everyone. Our



happiness was perfected when we heard that Miss Jellicorse and Miss Brashear were returning. On December 15 we initiated Bertie Little (Taylor), Winifred Lee, Anna Jane Anderson and Mary Ruth Fain, so that they might become Zetas with us."

"Three pre-installation dates will always be remembered: December 4, the day we received word of our charter grant; December 7, the day on which our installation date was finally settled; and December 12, the day on which we heard that Miss Jellicorse and Miss Brashear would be returning. Visiting Zetas and initiates-to-be began arriving on December 15, while Miss Jellicorse arrived on December 16, as did Iva Brashear and Marion Wingate (Palin), Zeta, from Jacksonville. That night thirty-three girls became Zeta pledges.

On Wednesday another guest, Helen Donaldson, Chi, arrived. The day was given over to examinations. Christmas was in the air when they entertained for their visitors with a Wednesday evening reception at the Kappa Delta house.

Then came initiation. "Beginning at ten o'clock Thursday morning and extending throughout the day and into the night, Zeta Tau Alpha claimed as her own twenty-six new daughters of Themis." The services were conducted in the home of Mrs. H. O. Hill, on December 18, 1924, by Marion Jellicorse (de Roos), National Inspector, assisted by Iva Brashear, Theta; Helen Donaldson, Chi, and members of Omicron and Zeta chapters. Beta Gamma recalled that "Frances Thomas, Alice Lee Hooker (Keeler), Ruth Barron (Iams) and Inez Prine (Garrard) arrived from Brenau on Thursday afternoon, so were present for most of the initiation and installation.

"The girls who wore the cherished shield of Zeta Tau Alpha for the first time that day" were: college charter members—Thelma Smith (Saunders), Elizabeth Cooper (Oakley), Lucile Reece (Roberts), Frances Walker, Mary Stallings (Kitchin), Helen Hyers, Olivi Corbett (Tindall), Winifred Lee (Bonfoey), Anna Jane Anderson (Macklin), Elizabeth Parker (Cobb), Maxine Wyatt (Massey), Lillian Ohrns (Ragsdale), Estelle Jones (McKay), Evelyn Hill (Brown), Elinor Lott (Green), Elizabeth Randolph (Bobst), Audrey Sims (Schumacher), Edith McCollum, Mary Margaret Swift (Emmons), Mary Ruth Fain (Bolles) and Margaret Wood (Fulmer). The five alumnæ initiates were: Miriam McCall (Horne), Bertie Little (Taylor), Anna Laird (Minear), Edith Robertson (Johnson) and Anna Belle Wasson (Selman). Mildred Harter (Davis) was their installation initiate. Marie Yon (Von Kessler), a charter member of Phi Epsilon, was initiated later by Beta Alpha chapter.

Friday's conferences and meetings took up the day. The installation banquet that night at the Leon Hotel was the concluding event. The toasts on the program were: "The Crown"—Helen Donaldson; "The Shield"—Ruth Barron; "Themis"—Marion Jellicorse. Later, their "visiting sisters delighted" them "by singing Zeta songs."

The deluge of "telegrams from the college and alumnæ chapters, the

gifts and notes received from the various campus fraternities, the offer of their homes from the various fraternities and faculty members, the help given us by our patronesses, the love given us by our sisters, the beautiful gift of Miss Brashear—everything served to increase our happiness and appreciation," they wrote.

The ninth N.P.C. fraternity on the Florida State campus, Zeta Tau Alpha's entrance was under auspicious circumstances.

**BETA DELTA:** After a year's lapse in which there were no charter grants, Zeta Tau Alpha's fifth chapter in the fraternity-minded state of Ohio was established at historic Miami University, the founding location of the Miami Triad,\* and later of other fraternities, too. Quiet Oxford was almost the heart of Ohio fraternity-land. And while the campus was famous for its men's groups of age and prestige, women's fraternities had also placed strong chapters there, and in 1919 a thinking group of girls decided to form one of their own. They put it this way:

"On November 22, 1919, eleven Miami girls proclaimed quietly to their college friends, by wearing the brown and gold of Delta Pi, that a new organization had been founded." The girls were Mildred Douthitt (Hiers), Elsie King (Bailey), Ethel Frost, Rachel Donald, Lucile Scharringhaus (Meyer), Carolyn Spence (Selby), Mary Lee Page (Winters), Esther Ihrig, Marion Heister (Schuman), Frances Voorhees and Adele Strasselle, a pledge.

Delta Pi was immediately recognized and was invited to send three representatives to the Women's Panhellenic Council. "During the first year Delta Pi initiated five splendid girls and achieved several honors." Ethel Frost was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, Mildred Douthitt (Hiers) and Mary Lee Page (Winters) were delegates to the Student Volunteer convention, Mildred Douthitt (Hiers) was chosen for Mortar Board and Carolyn Spence (Selby) became president of the Alethenai Literary Society. Delta Pi also achieved the distinction of ranking highest in scholarship, not only among the men and women's fraternities, but of all the classes—a record that was maintained for four consecutive years. In Delta Pi's first list of seniors, Ethel Frost graduated *magna cum laude*, Mildred Douthitt (Hiers), *cum laude*, and Marion Heister (Schuman) received honors in sociology.

"The second year started brightly with the pledging of eight girls," they wrote. "During the year the sorority enlarged its number and competed successfully with all the campus fraternities. Mary Lee was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, Carolyn went to Chicago to attend the Conference of American Colleges and Universities on Limitation of Armaments, while Mabel Miller,

\* Beta Theta Pi, Sigma Chi and Phi Delta Theta compose the famous Miami Triad. In later years, Phi Kappa Tau, Sigma Delta Rho and Delta Zeta were founded there, but their founding is part of the "new Miami."

Mabel Bodey, Carolyn and Rachel Donald were elected to Kappa Delta Pi. Mary Lee graduated *magna cum laude* with honors in English, and the Mabels, *cum laude*." Dorothea Eikenbary and Mary Ellen Lynde wore Phi Beta Kappa keys.

The next year Delta Pi grew stronger and attracted attention by the athletic successes of Harriet Dieter, Catherine Aiken and Virginia Kling. They were proud of Dorothea Nash's recognition in home economics, Helen Pulse's honors in economics, and Margaret Potter's achievements in dramatics. Dorothy Dunn, who won honors in music, and Florabel Huber were their Phi Beta Kappas. Harriet Dieter and Florabel Huber were Kappa Delta Pi members. Dorothy Dunn graduated *magna cum laude*.

An annual observance of Founders' Day, a spring dance, rush parties and informal cozies at the homes of patronesses furnished their "good times." Delta Pi acknowledged that she owed much of her success to her patronesses—Mrs. H. M. Vinacke, Mrs. Wade McMillan, Mrs. D. S. Robinson, Miss Mary Dubois and Miss Margaret E. Phillips, of the department of physical education. "When Delta Pi was young and fearful of her possibilities they encouraged her to push ahead," they said. The group also had a philanthropy.

Cementing their ties with the group, "the alumnæ organized themselves into the Graduate Council of Delta Pi," publishing a June bulletin the first two years.

Early in the fall of 1924, when "Delta Pi believed that she was mature enough to petition a national organization, all efforts were put forward to that end. Zeta Tau Alpha was chosen as our objective and every possible thing was done to obtain the coveted charter," they declared. In keeping with the fraternity's then current custom, "an attractive scrapbook was made, containing pictures and a history of each girl and pictures and a history of the university." When it was sent on its way they exulted that "only petitioning sororities know how happy we were when word was received that we might petition formally."

"Wondering what she was like," they soon lost their fright when Ethel Charnock, the Grand Secretary-Treasurer, arrived for an inspection visit in the fall of 1925. Deciding that she was a "charming guest," they settled down to enjoying the following days which included conferences, an informal tea for faculty and college friends, a bridge party at Carolyn Spence Selby's and "a very pretty banquet at the Spinning Wheel. The tables were festive, and huge yellow chrysanthemums and daffodil-lady pin cushions were found at every place." Also present during inspection was Dorothy Spicely (Shaw), Alpha Xi, "who had attended Miami and thus knew many of the founders."

The next months seem to have been borne with fortitude, for their next entry recorded "Cries of, 'At last, it's here!' when there was no need for the rest to ask what was here. Wasn't that telegram the very thing that we had been anxiously waiting for ever since last fall's inspection?" That was January 11, 1926.



"We went to work in earnest then," they wrote, "learning something of Zeta's history, the chapter roll, and so forth, until we received word on March 4 that installation was to be on March 10-14, with Bruce Houston Davis, then Delta province president, and Marion Jellicorse (de Roos) as the installing officers. Before plans were completed, though, another wire postponed the date until March 18-21, and "we were sorry that Miss Jellicorse was unable to come," but they were happy over Miss Charnock's return.

"Mrs. Davis arrived on Wednesday evening, March 17, and attended our meeting that night. Women's fraternities at Miami do not have houses; each group has a room in Main Building, where weekly Wednesday night meetings are held. We fell in love with Mrs. Davis at once. Since she was one of the first members to be initiated into Zeta Tau Alpha," they were enthralled with the "interesting occurrences in the fraternity's early history" which she told them.

"Thursday we took our examinations." Pledging took place that night. Katharine Alexander (Johnson), Jeanette Bertram (Chapman), Mary Doran (Semler) and Louise Abbihl came from Cincinnati to assist Mrs. Davis. "Twenty-two college members, two pledges and four alumnae wore the darling pledge pins with the turquoise and gray that night."

Eight more alumnae arrived Friday, as did Dorothy Spicely (Shaw), Alpha Xi. Miss Charnock arrived that night. There was another pledge service for the alumnae.

Beta Delta was formally installed March 18-21, 1926, by Mrs. Davis and Miss Charnock, assisted by the visiting members of Alpha Eta, Alpha Xi and Alpha Pi. "There aren't words to express our happiness when the shield and all the ideals it suggests, which we had worked and hoped for so long, became ours," Florabel Huber wrote. Those initiated were Freda Quante (O'Neil), Evalina Hill (Gardner), Marie Swing, Florabel Huber (Burnett), Josephine Buck (Monroe), Marjorie McConnaughey (Sharp), Norma Theobald (Kloepfer), Virginia Kling, Gertrude Tegge, Marian Timme (Schaffer), Florence Williams (Dunn), Susan Wine (Mueller), Elizabeth St. John (Longnecker), Elizabeth Steinhauer (Ott), Helen Little (Doersom), Harriet Harris (Brown), Valora McIlhenny (Ambrose), Lauretta Schweitzer (Shoemaker), Margaret Gaudern (Richmond), Charlotte McMaken, Roberta Crook (Bennett), Mary Lou Jackson, Carolyn Spence (Selby), Helen Pulse (Roades), Esther Jackson (Faben), Margaret Haworth (Williams), Mabel Miller (Knoll), Mabel Bodey (Hershey), Harriet Dieter, Leola Marsh (Ashforth), Charlotte Turrell, Dorothea Nash (Kuntz), Catherine Aiken (Harps) and Elsie Cox (Sallee).

Freda Quante, the chapter president, acted as toastmistress at the installation banquet which was held at the Spinning Wheel, "Oxford's quaint little hotel." Mrs. Davis, Miss Charnock, Miss Hamilton, the dean of women, Marion Thayer (McMillan) and Virginia Kling gave toasts. A formal reception in Wells Hall for faculty friends and other fraternities followed the banquet. "Everyone was

lovely to us," they exclaimed. "We received flowers and notes of congratulations from every fraternity on the campus."

Then on "Sunday afternoon Mrs. Davis and Miss Charnock met with us at Florence Dunn's to install officers, and for conferences.

"Altogether it was a weekend we can never forget," they concluded. "It brought new inspiration and a sincere desire to live up to Zeta ideals and make Beta Delta a group worthy of her trust and love." Zeta Tau Alpha was the eighth N.P.C. group to enter Miami.

**BETA EPSILON:** Twelve years had gone by since the placing of a chapter in California, but 1926 saw the establishment of the third chapter in the state, at the University of California, at Los Angeles. Originally the Los Angeles State Normal School, its enrollment and development brought about a changed status in 1919 when, by legislative action, it became the Southern Branch of the University of California. Continuing to expand, in addition to a complete teachers' course, the college of letters and science was added in 1923. In 1927 it formally became the University of California at Los Angeles.

This university was one of the first and one of the most notable examples of the metamorphosis of the teachers college into the expanded status of an arts college. When that occurred, it became an eligible field for National Panhellenic Conference groups, and chapters were quickly placed there. Zeta Tau Alpha's group was an interesting one.

Viola Gudmunsen, Grace Harper and Bergliot Gudmunsen (Eger) formed the collaborating trio of historians who first told the story of Beta Epsilon's predecessor\*: "Believing that as an organized group they could more effectively serve the university by the promotion of high scholarship and a strong spirit of friendship and friendliness, as well as by willing participation in campus activities, the women's fraternity, Nu Omega Alpha, was established in May, 1922, by Helen G. Thompson, Jessie R. Rogerson, Margaret Plumpton, Ella May Crandall, Louise Mueller, Cecil M. Johnson and Irene Caldwell (Quist)."

Interested in recognition signals, "a fraternity whistle and answers were composed and later a handclasp was inaugurated." Although the fraternity was recognized and admitted to Panhellenic in June, 1922, they later wrote that "the real organization of the group began in the fall of 1923." Their *alumnæ* association was organized on February 14, 1925.

They achieved distinction from the start. For two years, 1923-1924, Nu Omega Alpha held the scholarship cup. Members held such offices as president

\* A handmade book, original in form, hand-printed and bound, with a picture of each member and the history of the chapter and university, was the group's way of petitioning Zeta. They considered it a "masterpiece of art and originality," and Zeta's Grand Chapter complimented it. Marion Grey, Dorothy Millsbaugh (Smith), Marcella Rex (Minkel) and Catherine Hodges (James) were the artists.

of the Y.W.C.A., president of the senior class, president of the Home Economics Association, treasurer of the Interfraternity Council and of the Women's Athletic Association, as well as that of secretary of the Associated Women Students and W.A.A. They also won many other closely contested elections.

However, they pointed out that "although much time is devoted to work, the social side is not overlooked. We entertain with teas and dances, both formal and informal, banquets, dinner parties and like events which tend to make the college girl's life a thrill."

They still "held dear and carried out the early traditions which they established. Of these they mentioned especially their annual mothers' tea, and their self-denial week, when the money they saved was devoted to charity work or a girl's scholarship fund."

The chapter also firmly believed that seventeen was their lucky number and when Mary Poggi (Richley), Grand Vice-President, arrived for a December 16-17, 1925, inspection, they were sure of it. Mrs. Richley was accompanied by Mildred Snowden (Smith), Xi, also from the Los Angeles area.

While that visit went smoothly, in the intervening weeks the Nu Omega Alphas registered their uneasiness when, "after weeks and weeks of pondering over Miss Poggi's disquieting statement, 'Remember—an inspection does not mean a charter grant,' they were not so sure of the outcome. Then their lucky number stepped in, for the news of their charter grant arrived at seven-thirty o'clock the morning of February 17 and by eight-thirty o'clock every girl in the fraternity had heard the wonderful news and was receiving congratulations from all her friends on the campus." The other Zeta chapter in Los Angeles heard the news promptly, too, and "in the evening we had a gala time," they wrote, "the members of Xi chapter celebrating with us." Then followed six long weeks used to advantage in preparing for examinations.

"At last, on April 5, pledge night arrived and we sallied forth in the rain to pledging at Xi's chapter house, clad in white, our best shoes in a package tucked under our arm. Nothing could dampen our spirits, not even the greatest rain storm Los Angeles had witnessed in forty-eight years."

At that time "forty-four Nu Omega Alphas had the privilege of being pledged" by Mary Poggi (Richley), Mildred Snowden (Smith), who was to be their alumna adviser, and Fanny Hunter (Taylor), a former Grand Vice-President who was a Nu Omega Alpha patroness. The newly pledged members received turquoise and silver corsages from Xi chapter.

The next day they "proudly introduced to the campus" their new carpenter's squares over ribbons of gray and blue. "During the rest of the week," they declared, "we almost became gray-haired cramming for the examination which was given Saturday." With only one more week to wait, the chapter found that their "expectations fell far short of the wonderful realization that came on that day of days. The beauty and meaning of the initiation ceremony, the



installation of our chapter and officers, and the ritual meeting which followed, will remain in our hearts always."

The ceremonies were conducted on April 17, 1926, by Mrs. Richley and the National Inspector, Evelyn Callicutt, assisted by Adeline Scandrett, president of Lambda province, Mrs. Smith, Marian Sparks (Lones), Xi's president, and representatives from Xi, Upsilon, Tau, and the Los Angeles Alumnæ chapter. Beta Epsilon felt "honored to have so many prominent Zetas as installing officers."

The charter members were: Dorothy Millspaugh (Smith), Marcella Rex (Minkel), Catherine Hodges (James), Doris Wolfe (Day), Cecilia Ahrens (Hough), Kathryn Chase (Grant), Mary Louise Shumaker (Grow), Louise Murray, Edna Bedell, Florence Kellar (Scott), Virginia Stoneman, Carolyn Grey, Geraldine Norton (Mangold), Mary Craig (Sweet), Barbara Diefenbach (Welsh), Dorothy Kimbley (Walker), Grace Harper, Elizabeth Knight, Marian Grey, Helen Howell, Viola Gudmunsen, Kathryn O'Connor (Mills), Martha McDonald (Mye), Ruth Peiffer (Casady), Laura Belt (Walbridge) and Elsie Whitney (Todd).

"After gathering in front of Xi's house for a group picture," they "hurried home to assure" their parents that they were "truly wearers of the coveted badge," but they had only a few moments, for "the installation banquet was waiting at the Tea Garden of the Mary Louise."

They exulted "over the lovely sight of over one hundred Zetas assembled," representing Lambda, Tau, Omega, Xi, Upsilon, Alpha Alpha, Alpha Xi and Alpha Sigma chapters, as well as the brand-new Beta Epsilon.

Gray suede favors, stamped with the coat-of-arms in gold were miniature Zeta Tau Alpha songbooks that proved to be also a combination cardcase and memorandum book, holding the banquet program. "Harmony from the Zeta Tau Alpha Songbook" was the theme "and each subject was the title of a song." With Elizabeth Knight as toastmistress, "Miss Poggi spoke on 'The Shield of Themis'; Norma Wallace on 'To The Gray and Blue'; Adeline Scandrett on 'Zeta, Like a Lovely Flower'; Catherine Cowell, Xi, on 'Pledge Days' and Dorothy Millspaugh, Beta Epsilon's first president, on 'Pride of Our Hearts.'"

But the evening did not end in the usual way. They "unconsciously started an impromptu program" because the "toasts were unusually clever and inspiring, it was still early and we were having such a wonderful time." They sang Zeta songs, Alpha Sigma's Thelma Harvison (Patterson) gave several readings and Grace Harper presented two original poems.

The Los Angeles Zetas were gracious and cordial to the new members. Monday afternoon the chapter was "introduced to the fraternity world by the Los Angeles Alumnæ chapter at the Woman's Athletic Club." The "reception hall, adjoining the garden court, was fragrant with the beautiful baskets of flowers

sent us." Heading the receiving line were Mrs. Richley, Miss Callicutt and Miss Scandrett. They were assisted by Mildred Ewoldt (Wilson), *alumnæ* president, Catherine Cowell (Edgerton), Xi's president, and Beta Epsilon's officers.

After the reception they "transferred the baskets of flowers to the newest of Zeta Tau Alpha houses; hung the beautiful banner presented by Xi, and then sat down by the fireplace and lived again those thrilling and inspiring moments which had just passed. . . ."

With the acquisition of Beta Epsilon, Zeta Tau Alpha had two chapters in one city for the first time. Cordiality and cooperation keynoted the relations of the two from the first, and presaged continuing years of friendship as each chapter grew stronger and stronger.

**BETA ZETA:** With two chapters in the state of Iowa, a third was added in 1926 when Beta Zeta chapter was installed in Ames, at Iowa State College. The charter group was an old, well-established organization that had flourished for twelve years.

In the spring of 1914 a group of girls organized the Micabo Club. The word meant "ever successful." "They stood for high ideals, initiative and high scholarship, and with those aims in mind they chose their new members." Micabo's charter members were Mabel Helmick (Swank), Lillian Eddy (Loucks), Vera Wingerson (Snyder), Florence Ones (Wills), Beth Lemen (Obye), Anna Hartmann (Shellito), Grace Dewey (Fitch), Ruth Dewey, Clara Woodruff (Goddard), Pauline Flint (Hammond), Elsie Steuben (Seirick), Florence Lewis and Maude Lewis.

Four years later, however, in the spring of 1918, they found that they had outgrown their "present quarters, so they moved to a larger house and reorganized under the name of Alpha Chi Beta, a local sorority." Shortly afterward the group incorporated, the new constitution providing *alumnæ* support for the securing of a college home. With that goal in mind the *alumnæ* of Micabo and Alpha Chi Beta kept together, and in the spring of 1926, when Beta Zeta chapter was installed, the association had approximately 100 *alumnæ* and twenty-six college members.

"Of course," they wrote, "as in the case of all local organizations, Alpha Chi Beta talked about nationals. Through Linda Spence Brown, Kappa Alpha Theta, our faculty adviser, we became interested in Zeta Tau Alpha. From the fall of 1924 on, Alpha Chi Beta talked Zeta—our future hope." In March, 1926, they received permission from the faculty fraternity committee and the Panhellenic Council to petition Zeta Tau Alpha.

In 1924, they "had a great deal of correspondence with officers and members of Zeta Tau Alpha," and they "hoped and waited." In March, 1925, they had a formal dance at the country club and a house-party over the week end to which they invited Zetas from Northwestern, Minnesota, Iowa and Iowa

Wesleyan. Virginia Hickey (Mattison) and Elizabeth Kluckholm came from Alpha Omicron, Dorothy Metz (Vandervort) from Northwestern and Helen Gene Cantrell (Ross) was a Tau member present. It was an unforgettable week end for them. On Saturday afternoon they entertained Panhellenic Council in honor of their guests, a formal dance followed that evening, while a Sunday morning breakfast party included the "pledges who are not allowed to live at the house." Meeting those girls added to their "desire to become Zetas."

They thought they had only two days in which to prepare for the inspection of which they received word in February, 1926, "and such busy days as they were. However, the second day dawned and another telegram brought word that Mrs. Wettach was delayed in Texas for a few days. At last she arrived. . . . In the afternoon of the day of her visit we had a tea in her honor, with the Panhellenic Council and a few of the deans as guests. In the evening we had a meeting and then, before we knew it, she was gone." The President, Alpha Burkart (Wettach), was the officer who visited them.

They, too, consoled themselves with the adage that "no news is good news" and "they kept that in mind during the following weeks of no word. Then came the telegram that caused so much excitement it is a wonder the roof stayed on the house at 127 Stanton Avenue. The charter was granted."

Twenty-six girls were pledged on the evening of May 19, 1926, by the National Inspector, Evelyn Callicutt. "The next day the alumnæ began coming back . . . there were thirty loyal alumnæ present." Preparations for initiation went forward amid "glorious reunions and busy meetings."

Beta Zeta was installed on May 22, 1926, by Miss Callicutt, assisted by Margaret Bostic (Alcott), Sigma, and members of Alpha Alpha. In addition to Mrs. Alcott, the chapter wrote that Helen Griley, Elizabeth Kluckhohm and Ruth Rittler (Gaston), Alpha Omicron, motored over from Iowa City, Mary Powelson (Warhust) came from Des Moines University and Clara Bovemeyer, Alpha Omicron, was already in Ames.

The sixty initiated at that time were Jessie Hill (Gates), Bessie Gaffey (McKenna), Gladys Scotten (Woodhull), Sylvia Pederson (Connolly), Margaret Berkey, Marian Redfield (Wasson), Anne Westrom (Olson), Dorothy Brackin (Applegate), Muriel Moore (Phillips), Caroline Morrell (Gibson), Ethel Lext (Morrow), Marian Hagen, Gertrude Seibert, Louise Lang (Conrad), Blodwen Johns, Lillian Larsen (Tharp), Miriam Meyer, Lucille Tumey, Alice Kirchoff (Hanson), Winifred Conner (Bowman), Eloise Conner (Martinez), Helen Stevens, Lillian Stoutenberg (Jones), Grace Sowerwine (Holmes), Juliette Wylie (Knickerbocker), Zella Rush (Smith), Reva Pierce (Fegtley), Edith Fowler (Kerr), Dorothy Gibson (Boylan), Thelma Tollefson, Doris Wherry (Johnson), Marguerite Conner (Ayers), Gladys Irwin (Durrell), Emma Fife, Hazel Spire (Staley), Gladys Mackey, Marie Hartman (Rohlick), Sarah Perley (Wallis), Hazel Waples (Hawthorn), Ruth Grimes (Wettach), Mary Battell (Quam),



Leorra Porter (Womeldorff), Thelma Smith, Lillian Willson, Ruby Davidson (Gustafson), Ida Flogstad, Mabel Cotton (Shellito), Sylvia Flogstad (Rasmussen), Alma Tonsfeldt (Burnstedt), Ervilla Masters, Eleanor Baur (Combs), Pearl Gaffey (Chindlund), Hazel Martin (Downs), Ella Matzen (Edgington), Edith Hauser (Hoffman), Cynthia Hughes (Palmer), Marie Sailer, Maxine Berkey (Schutt), Katheryn Ayers, Nielsine Hanson and Ruth Ginger (Cain).

Understandably, with sixty candidates "initiation lasted all day Saturday, followed by installation of officers. Nothing so beautiful has ever happened to us and we will always remember our impression of installation," they declared.

The rainbow colors of an old-fashioned garden predominated that night at the installation banquet held in the Lounge Room of Cranford Hall. There was a profusion of garden flowers and toastmistress Katheryn Ayers was also Mistress of the Garden. "Planting the Seed" was the topic of Grace Sowerwine's toast as an alumna, while the other responses were, "Watching the Garden Grow," Cicily Tinsley, house director; "Sunshine and Rain," Jessie Hill, past president; "As Seen Through the Hedge," Linda Spence Brown, faculty adviser; "Alumnæ," Margret Bostic (Alcott); "The Budding of Zeta Tau Alpha," Evelyn Callicut; "The Tréllis," Gladys Scotton, Beta Zeta's new president.

Beta Zeta's introduction to the campus "was an open house" for faculty members and other fraternity friends. "Gifts of flowers came from many houses." One sorority sent a pair of candlesticks, while another sent a Parrish picture.

When Miss Callicutt and the last of the visitors left, the new Zetas returned "from the station very much lost. It was the close of the happiest week of our lives," they said. Expressing their "profound happiness at being members of Zeta Tau Alpha," they surveyed the avalanche of telegrams and notes of congratulations from other college chapters and alumnæ groups, and found their messages inspiring.

Zeta Tau Alpha was the tenth national organization for women on the Ames campus.

**BETA ETA:** When Zeta Tau Alpha entered the state of Nebraska in 1927, the chapter had the distinction of numbering among its members the wife of the governor of the state, and of being installed in the executive mansion at Lincoln. The story unfolds interestingly.

It began in the fall of 1924, when "a small group of girls, drawn together by similar interests and desiring the closer bond of fellowship, joined to their number other kindred spirits and, under the leadership of Clara J. VanTuyl, organized Alpha Upsilon." The University of Nebraska girls who formed the group were Clara VanTuyl (Hansen), Gertrude Aron (Bates), Madge Miller, Agnes Graham (Isaacson), Anna Zeman, Clara von Bergen (Myers), Lillian Brier and Clara M. Slade, faculty adviser.

Working to build their organization, the first year's meetings were held in the classroom of Teachers' College. They closed the year with a picnic at their adviser's summer cabin.

The next fall, however, they were ready to hold weekly meetings at Miss Slade's home. Their January petition to the student body, when they also presented their constitution, resulted in official recognition. In February they added eleven pledges and "from then on Alpha Upsilon showed steady growth," with the result that they "began to feel the need of a chapter home." Fall was the date set for securing a house of their own, and, in addition, they "now felt strong enough to petition a national fraternity." Clara Slade suggested Zeta Tau Alpha.

Correspondence with their chosen organization was begun at once, "lasting until the first of May when we received our petition blanks. That was a busy month. Zeta Tau Alpha wished to know us better, so we prepared a scrapbook, filled in questionnaires and sent them with our petition." Then they "went home to wait and hope," but before they returned in the fall, they had received the joyful news" that they had achieved the first step—they "were to be inspected."

Meanwhile, a house had materialized, for "arrangements . . . had been made by the *alumnæ*," and great was their pleasure that they "were all to live together in an attractive home two blocks from the campus." Once in their own home, "real rushing began. A lovely rainbow luncheon, a Japanese party and an informal house dance were arranged." They added seven pledges.

Margret Bostic (Alcott), Sigma, who by this time had attended several installations and visited several new groups, went to Lincoln to make the inspection for Grand Chapter. "The following days," they wrote, "were busy but happy ones, filled with conferences and social activities. A formal banquet, luncheons, and an informal musical tea at the governor's mansion" completed the inspection which they themselves thoroughly enjoyed.

After that, in common with other chapters who had gone through the same experience, they "waited and hoped." While they were looking forward to that little sheet of yellow paper from the telegraph office bearing the two magic words, "charter granted!" they, like Beta Epsilon, kept in mind the inspecting officer's admonition that "an inspection does not mean a charter grant." The last of January they received "the joyful news" of their charter grant, and expectedly, "the chapter house was the scene of much activity the next two months." Quickly "the news spread, everyone knew that at last we were to be Zetas. The following weeks were filled with preparation for the examinations, every one of us doing our share to get this material to our *alumnæ* in order that they, too, might be ready for initiation."

When their "pledge night" arrived on March 31, 1927, a stream of white-clad college girls and *alumnæ* went to the chapter house for formal pledging. Sixty-

one members were pledged by Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), National Inspector, assisted by Margret Bostic Alcott, who returned for installation. The next day the new pledges "introduced on the Nebraska campus the lovely little carpenter's squares and the colors of Zeta Tau Alpha."

Beta Eta was cognizant that "it was a real privilege to have the installation in the ballroom of the third floor of the governor's mansion, and especially so since [they] numbered among their alumnae, Cora Greenwood (McMullen), the wife of the governor of Nebraska." The services began on Friday morning, April 1, 1927, with the National Inspector in charge. The assisting Zetas were Mary Ann Price (Emerson), Beta Gamma, and a group of Beta Zetas from Ames: Margaret Berkey (Gripp), Helen Stephens, Nielsine Hanson, Jewel Coleman (Ganser), Gladys Scotton (Woodhull), Elizabeth Moore (Phillips); Katherine Pierson (Nolin), Doris Baggert (Koehler), Dorothy Longshore (Carothers), Elizabeth Tasker (Beall), Elizabeth Thompson (Kidd), Alpha Mu; Alice Holander, Alpha Phi, and Eula May Nettleton, Tau.

Those who became Beta Eta's charter members that day were: Gertrude Aron (Bates), Jessie Baldwin, Hazel Banning (Havloric), Jennie Banning, Neva Lois Barden (Pafers), Merle Beattie, Blodwen Benyon (Smith), Lillian Brier, Juanita Britton (Gartner), Esther Blakenship (Andrews), Alona Carpenter (Black), Maxine Choyce, May Bothwell, Mary Helen Daily (Butcher), Hazel Davis, Georgia Coulter (Partridge), Esther Fehner (Thomas), Ethel Fort (Anderson), Annis Frederickson, Janice Frederickson (Stronberg), Alice Smith (French), Dorothy Greenleaf (Most), Mariane Greenleaf (Tobin), Viola Hall (Engel), Pearl Moore (Henzlik), Jane Hinkley (Blake), Alice Hussong (Bieberstein), Mildred Kellenbarger (Mason), Ruth May (Knutson), Hazel Mead (Schildt), Irene McDonald (Eastman), Cora Greenwood (McMullen), Magdalene Miller, Agnes Graham (Muhm), Esther Nelson (Ellis), Helen Novak, Ann Ostoff (Bell), Martha Ostoff (Crane), Mabel Olson (Freichs), Lucille Paddleford, Fayne Stayner (Poteet), Elsie Pucelik (Carroll), Elizabeth Ramsay (Hicks), Marianne Ransdel (Des Jardien), Edith Lucille Robbins, Maude Rousseau, Irma Jane Sanders, Marjorie Shanafelt, Clara Slade, Annetta Sprung, Louise Swoboda (Parks), Helen VanCleaf, Clara VanTuyl (Hansen), Ruth Woods (Weiss), Eva Williams (Smith), Carrie Davis (Wylde), Lucie Wilson (Yoder), Flora Woods, Rose Wanek, Anna Zeman.

On Saturday afternoon, April 2, Beta Eta was introduced at a "lovely tea held at the executive mansion. The rooms were beautifully decorated with baskets of flowers sent by the various fraternities and sororities" and over 250 guests called to congratulate the new chapter. "One lovely feature was the playing of an original harp composition dedicated to Beta Eta chapter by Marjorie Shanafelt. Three harps furnished the music." The dining-room was decorated entirely in white. The silver service was the one formerly used on the battleship, the *S.S. Nebraska*.



Receiving with Mrs. McMullen were Clara Wilson, Panhellenic chairman; Miss MacGregor; Mrs. Alcott; Clara VanTuyl (Hansen); Miss Amanda Heppner, dean of women; Beta Eta's president, Gertrude Aron (Bates), and Clara Slade.

Eighty Zetas attended the formal banquet which followed at the Lincoln Hotel. Margret Alcott was the toastmistress. With the banquet theme of "Installation," the following toasts were given: "Long Before," Clara VanTuyl; "Just Before," Gertrude Aron; "During," Gladys Scotton, Beta Zeta; "Just After," Clara Slade; "Ever After," Miss MacGregor. After the "clever and inspiring toasts," the visiting Zetas sang several Zeta songs which inspired an impromptu songfest at the chapter house later.

Zeta Tau Alpha was the twenty-first national fraternity for women on the Nebraska campus.

BETA THETA: Indiana was to have a fourth chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha, at tradition-laden Franklin College, one of the oldest institutions of learning in the United States. And a distinguished alumnus of the college played a leading role in the establishment of that chapter, for all of it was the outgrowth of the friendship existing between George Banta, Sr.,\* the eminent fraternity leader, and Zeta Tau Alpha.

The group which he wanted to see affiliated with a national organization was Phi Beta Gamma. It was founded on April 30, 1921, by Bonna Baughman, Pansy Baughman (Wilson), Iris Buck (Blank), Velma Clayton (Luttrell), Mary Letha DeBard (Blackwell), Frances Foster, Helen Fuller (Martin), Mary Hart (Snelling), Dorothy Kroft (Livengood), Elsie Redman (Griffith), Jeanette Reap and Gladys Vance (Clapp), with a twofold purpose: to uphold fine, true womanhood and to assist in the activities of the college. The first year's officers were Mary Letha DeBard, president; Frances Foster, vice-president; Mary Hart, secretary, and Elsie Redman, treasurer. "In that year a constitution was drawn up and pledge and initiation services were written."

Although the practice of women's groups having houses was later discontinued, Phi Beta Gamma had that as an early goal. But they could not afford it just then. "Since we did not feel financially able to maintain a house at this time," they wrote, "we contented ourselves with furnishing a hall in the dormitory, where meetings were held until the fall of 1925 when we moved" to 50 South Home Street. With considerable pride they reported that they "were able to furnish this house, after a great deal of careful shopping,

\* Long known as the dean of fraternity editors, George Banta, Sr., was not only the founder and long-time editor of *Banta's Greek Exchange* but he was also the first president of Phi Delta Theta's National Council—an office later held by George Banta, Jr., who also attended Franklin College. George Banta, Sr. was also one of the foremost fraternity authorities in the country. He graduated from Franklin in 1875.

for the very nominal sum of \$905.75." A year later they won the "ten-dollar Homecoming prize for having the most artistically decorated house."

Scholastically they gained a reputation. In 1926 they held second place on the campus. Lee Esther Tholke (Anderson) won the Panhellenic scholarship cup in 1920-1921 and "for the past two years," they wrote in 1927, "we held the vice-presidency of Franklin's Student Council." In 1925-1926, Marcella Pritchard (Cobb) held that position, after which it was held by Margaret Shepherd (Dillard).

A few years after their founding the group became interested in Zeta Tau Alpha "through Helen and Grace Pritchard, Alpha Delta, who were cousins of two Phi Beta Gammas, and through Mr. George Banta, Sr. Mr. Banta, who claims Franklin College as his Alma Mater, is, we firmly believe, one of the outstanding reasons that we are Zeta Tau Alphas today," they asserted. And they were entirely correct in that conclusion, for he was. "His kind recommendations of our chapter quite justly carried a great deal of weight with Grand Chapter, and we cannot thank him too much."

Learning of the strong local group and its aspirations on one of his trips to Franklin, Mr. Banta promptly wrote Zeta's Editor about it. He had become convinced that here was a fine chapter for a fraternity with whom he had enjoyed years of friendship that dated back to the years when his publishing house first started printing *Themis*. A strong advocate of the small college, he believed that it furnished the finest of locations for fraternity chapters and this contention was well-bolstered by an array of outstanding men and women who were products of small colleges.

After some correspondence, Mr. Banta's recommendations and information were transmitted to an attentive Grand Chapter which, as the Franklin girls realized, regarded his opinion highly. Thus it came about that they "learned, in the spring of 1926," that they had been "granted a preliminary inspection by Grand Chapter, an event [they] had anticipated all summer."

Following the 1926 convention, Bruce Houston (Davis) returned to national life as Grand Vice-President, and it was she who, in November, "came from Lexington, Kentucky, to inspect" Phi Beta Gamma. The Franklin girls realized that in this visit they were privileged to meet and know one of the outstanding figures in Zeta's history. "She impressed all of us northerners in a way we shall never forget," they declared, "and we promptly fell in love with her."

"After Mrs. Davis returned to her home there was another long time in which we were uncertain of the outcome; a time that seemed a century long," Mary Margaret Boyd (Littell) wrote, "but finally the telegram came that told us we would soon be the fifty-eighth chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha."

Pi Beta Phi graciously launched the events of Beta Theta's installation by a Congratulations Tea. Since the date set for installation was so close to that of the annual Indiana State Luncheon, permission was granted for the Phi

Beta Gammas to be pledged at that time. Consequently, the Franklin members were welcomed into the fraternity by their sister chapters in Indiana, the pledging ceremonies taking place in the Benjamin Harrison room of the Columbia Club, in Indianapolis. "Mrs. Davis, our beloved Vice-President, returned, to our great joy, to take charge of the installation." Dorothy Kemp (Heller), Alpha Delta's president, and Evelyn Wilkinson (Spieth), Alpha Xi's president, "had charge of the solemn, impressive pledging of thirty-nine of us," Beta Theta wrote.

Formal initiation ceremonies took place April 11, 1927, at the Masonic Temple in Franklin, Indiana, "a beautiful location for us." Assisting Mrs. Davis, the installing officer, were Dorothy Kemp (Heller), Alpha Delta; Mabel Gruber (BeMiller), Alpha Theta; Evelyn Wilkinson (Spieth), Alpha Xi, and other members of Alpha Delta, Alpha Theta and Alpha Xi. The Purdue chapter had charge of the installation of the chapter and of the officers. They "also pledged three girls who were unable to attend the Indianapolis luncheon."

Zeta Tau Alpha, the fourth national fraternity on the campus, was warmly welcomed. Following Pi Beta Phi's tea, Delta Delta Delta gave a dinner, while the Delta Zetas sponsored an open house. "A serenade by Kappa Delta Rho was the closing event of this exceedingly eventful day."

Initiated that day were Margaret Shepherd (Dillard), Irene Pritchard (Anderson), Mary Margaret Boyd (Littell), Rachel Applegate (Goodale), Margaret McClure (Shook), Thelma Stout, Helen Fuller (Martin), Mary Sanders (Smith), Helen Sanders (Miller), Martha Jacobs (Schoolfield), LaVerna Nesbit (Widney), Hazel Branigan (McCraith), Margaret Hilligoss, Mary Lois Hughes, Lucy Smith (Duckworth), Beryl Custer (Meyers), Elberta Robertson (McFaddin), Dorsa Redman (Vest), college members; Mary Letha DeBard (Blackwell), Mabel Collins (Gray), Inez Lough (Johnson), Gladys Vance (Clapp), Bonna Baughman, Frances Foster, Elsie Redman (Griffith), Hollis Hughes, Lee Esther Tholke (Anderson), Hortense Shepherd (Tommel), Thelma Cline (Cook), Eva Keene, Louise Weber (Riser), Edith Weber (Cambridge), Gertrude Burton (Brown), Rowena Standiford, Edna Oldfield (Whitson), alumnae; Ruth DuPlan (Grandey), installation initiate.

Delta Delta Delta's dinner party on April 18, 1928, at Ye Wayside Inn, was the closing event of Beta Theta's installation—which opened and closed on a note of Panhellenic courtesy and good will.

BETA IOTA: From Indiana to the deepest of the Deep South was a long distance and it took Zeta Tau Alpha to fabulous Louisiana—a state whose extent was once so vast that no one dared estimate it, since no one had ever explored all of it.

By the time of the War Between the States, Centenary College was favorably known throughout the Old South, nearly every family of prominence in the



state, as well as in neighboring states, "being represented in its halls." In its hall of fame are the names of Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy, and Judah P. Benjamin, another officer of the Confederacy. When every student answered the call to arms and the college closed on October 7, 1861, the notice read, "College closed; all students gone to war. God help the right!"

Reopening in 1868, Centenary played an important part in the life of the South during the period of Reconstruction. Women, however, played no part in Centenary's life. While "there had never been a law barring [them], only in recent years have they begun to attend Centenary regularly," Zenobia Arnett (Booth) wrote in 1927. That, then, was why a college of distinguished age had numerous men's fraternities but no national fraternities for women, until Zeta Tau Alpha placed its Beta Iota chapter in Shreveport in 1927. With the enrollment of women students, organizations were soon formed for them.

Thus it was in keeping with the natural trend of events that "on October 22, 1922, a small group of congenial girls organized a sorority, selecting the Greek letters, Kappa Pi, for a name." One of their first moves was the adoption of a coat-of-arms, "and from its very beginning the girls began to make the organization stand for worth-while things and high ideals."

The members of that group were Emilie Barnes (Smith), Margaret Jordan (Jackson), Bedo Lane (Waller), Bessie Marks (Harrington), Doris Hands, Hazel Trichel, Sallie Walters, Louise Lide (Hill) and Hazel Morris.

Ever an enterprising chapter, they had an immediate goal. "In the same year these members industriously planned to own their own home and they began to work immediately." Applying themselves diligently to this project, the result was a picturesque log cabin which "became the home of Kappa Pi." The cooperation of the president, Dr. George S. Sexton, was a major factor, however, for "the logs were taken from the campus and were donated by the president." But "the actual building cost was paid off by the tireless work of the girls, and the closing of college found Kappa Pi with an owned home and no debts." Dr. Sexton's wife, Sallie Moseley (Sexton), was a charter member of Beta Iota chapter.

With such a record of accomplishment "it was not long before the local entertained the thought of a national." Through Elizabeth Burgess, Omega, and Alice Lee Swain (Winberg), Epsilon, "interest was centered on Zeta Tau Alpha." After some correspondence, they "received petition blanks and made up a scrapbook to send" to Grand Chapter. The "unofficial" visit of Ellen Murphy, Epsilon, in May, made them "wish more than ever to be Zetas."

When, before they returned to college that fall, they received word that an official inspection had been granted, they "naturally were very excited and hopeful, and looked forward with great pleasure to the appointed time."

When the National Inspector, Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), arrived the early

part of December, 1926, "her visit was filled with conferences and social affairs . . . but only too soon she left us to wait in hope and suspense," they wrote.

While the ensuing months seemed interminable, their reward was the announcement of a charter grant which they received on January 27, 1927. The ensuing three months were filled with preparations for initiation. "Everyone was busy studying for examinations and amid such joyful confusion it seemed as though any sort of order was impossible," was the way the "thrilled and happy" girls described their days.

On May 3, 1927, their guests began to arrive and the pledging ceremonies were held that day at the plantation home of Jane Fullilove (Mason). Then for the next two days they had the pleasure of wearing "the pledge pins and Zeta Tau Alpha colors," an experience always coveted by new chapters. On May 5, the new Zeta pledges and their visitors were honored at a "lovely tea given by one of the local women's organizations, Phi Omega."

Initiation and the installation of Beta Iota chapter took place on May 6, 1927, at the home of Mary Frances Young (Morwood), the chapter president. "Following the ceremony, the ritual meeting and installation of officers took place," they wrote. "We were deeply impressed with the beautiful and solemn ceremony which made us Beta Iota chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha."

The following Kappa Pi members were initiated: Sallie Moseley (Sexton), Edwina Martin (Graves), Emilie Barnes (Smith), LeTrelle Shipley (Billeiter), Louise Lide (Hill), Sallie Walters, Bessie Marks (Harrington), Bedo Lane (Waller), Christine McCormick (Stanley), Louise Mitchell (Jones), Mary Frances Young (Morwood), Gertrude Marks, Elizabeth Hudson (Myers), Louise Davidson (Davis), Zenobia Arnett (Booth), Louise Jarrell, Larry Arnold Vance (Hunt), Margaret Holmes (Brown), Dorothy Fulk (Richardson), Wanda Smith (Mikulik), Jane Fullilove (Mason), Kate Styron (Hamel) and Anne Kirk (Herold).

Assisting Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), the installing officer, were Nelle Chapman (Wheat), Laura Gillett (Ramsay) and Lorena Moses (Hempel) from Lambda; Dorothy Parker, Kappa; Alice Lee Swain (Winberg), Epsilon; Marian King (Himes), Alpha Upsilon; Nell Gray Taylor (Evans), Delta-Omega, and Marjorie Fields (Dickson), Delta.

The banquet which followed installation "was delightfully informal." Making their debut as a national, the chapter was "presented at a lovely garden party at the home of Margaret Holmes," where the lawn was made even more attractive by the "baskets of flowers sent from the other women's and men's fraternities." And "congratulatory and sisterly messages" poured in.

Zeta Tau Alpha was the first national fraternity for women to enter Centenary, and it was another chapter gained through the devotion of members eager to see their fraternity placed on a new campus in which they were interested.

BETA KAPPA: The angry waters of the rampaging Mississippi River were swirling dangerously around New Orleans in one of the worst floods of that turbulent river's stormy history when Beta Kappa chapter was installed a few days after the establishment of Beta Iota, in the western part of Louisiana. Dimmed for the moment was the famed city's incomparable charm and the zest with which it is enjoyed by eager visitors, for in May, 1927, New Orleans was considered in grave danger, and the outside world watched anxiously.

However, those living there remained so calm and unafraid that Beta Kappa's installation was carried out according to schedule, even though the installing officer rode through vast stretches of inundated countryside with the train plowing slowly through swirling waters that covered the land as far as eye could see. Not fond of water hazards at any time, the ride was a harrowing one for her.

Fabulous New Orleans, with an equally fabulous mixture of Spain, France and America in its blood, was a setting to intrigue and fire the imagination. The celebrated *vieux carré*, the old French quarter that is unmatched in flavor and tradition, rubs shoulders with modern New Orleans, but life and customs follow a tempo and pattern inherently New Orleans' own, influenced by and reflective of the romantic past when the city was allied more closely in sentiment to France than to any other country. The Mardi Gras with all its pageantry has come down through the years with undimmed importance and gaiety. And the heritage handed down to succeeding generations has been a rich one.

It was entirely through the efforts and loyalty of a Cincinnati Zeta that Beta Kappa chapter came into being. When Ruth Virtue (O'Connor), Alpha Eta, became a sophomore at Sophie Newcomb College in September, 1925, "she had not been there long before she discovered that, splendid as Newcomb is, it was lacking in one vital respect—it boasted no chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha."

It cannot be anything but evident to a discerning reader that in the years thus far covered, the enterprise and natural courage of the various Zetas who found themselves on campuses where their fraternity was not represented, followed one course without timidity or hesitation. With normal self-reliance and the assurance of intelligent thought and planning, they promptly set out to form a chapter for Zeta Tau Alpha. They asked nothing from their national organization except interest and, in due time, when circumstances were right, the new chapter was placed. Not one of the Zetas who founded chapters considered themselves the least bit unusual. They merely had the vision and the will to do. What there *was* to do seemed quite apparent to them. Furthermore, it was evident to them that this was their opportunity, their own work to do. And they welcomed it with interest and enthusiasm. Such was the spirit, the enterprise and normal accomplishment of a period not burdened by mental



shackles that stifle initiative, inculcate dependence and blank out the horizon of opportunity.

Thus it was that, with the complete freedom of thought and action typical of that time, "Ruth soon decided that this unfortunate circumstance must be remedied, so on the first Sunday in March (by that time she had become well acquainted and very well liked at Newcomb), she organized a local fraternity, Gamma Phi, whose main purpose in life was to petition Zeta Tau Alpha." In addition to Ruth Virtue herself, the charter members were: Lucille Maestri, Evelyn Maestri, Patricia Lamb (Teague), Esther Brandao, Edna Morrison (Scatterty), Virginia Blanchard, Winifred Meisenhiemer (McCain), Robbie Lang (Lloveras), Edwarda Parsons (Macmurdo), and Kathleen Baxter (Hughes). "Ruth was elected president, Lucille Maestri was vice-president, Patricia Lamb was the secretary and Edna Morrison was the treasurer." With them for this first meeting was Evelyn Callicutt, whose presence they considered their good fortune and who "increased (if that were possible) their desire of becoming Zeta Tau Alphas."

From then on Ruth Virtue was counselor, friend, sponsor and the first president of the new group. Her aid and interest were invaluable to them, and they prospered from the first.

"April," they wrote, "was a wonderful month for Gamma Phi. Our petition for recognition was accepted by the faculty, and we felt that we had progressed at least one step toward Zeta Tau Alpha. Shortly after this, we were admitted into the Panhellenic Council of Newcomb fraternities, and we elected Edwarda Parsons as our representative.

"But there was more good news in store for us . . . early the next month Lucille Maestri was chosen May Queen—Newcomb offers scarcely any greater honor. The May Queen is always a popular senior who has, in the eyes of the junior and senior classes, worked loyally and unselfishly for her college and class. . . . A week later we initiated Edith Fasterling, Betty O'Leary and Frances Neill, and pledged Ruth Moss, Laura Barelli, Audrey Herbert and Marie Louise Ryckman." The June meeting "decided that the executives should remain unchanged for the next year," except that Edwarda Parsons succeeded Lucille Maestri as vice-president.

"The beginning of the term in 1927 was a whirl of rushing, for by Panhellenic ruling, girls may only be rushed during the summer and for the first four days after college opens." Their pledges were Georgette Thompson, Edith Blanchard, Maud Hoefeld, Helen Maestri, Irma Prosdame, Ouida Seiler and Ruth Brandao. Two weeks later Georgette was initiated.

Other honors were gained. Georgette Thompson was chairman of the Athletic Council and Edna Morrison, who was to be fairly overwhelmed with honors, won the Jennie C. Nixon prize awarded annually to the best speaker in the Nixon debate. Already a member of the Varsity Debating Team, Edna

Morrison had the distinction of being the only Newcomb girl chosen for the Carnot Debating Team, composed of students from Tulane University. She also won the George prize, awarded to the best debater in the varsity preliminaries.

While all of this was busily going on in New Orleans, other wheels were turning and the group was getting nearer its objective, for Grand Chapter was sending an officer to visit them. The girls themselves put it this way:

"November 19-23, 1926, were the most exciting days Gamma Phi had ever known. Inspection! If you have never been a member of a petitioning group you will perhaps miss the glamour of that single word; and if you have been, there is nothing we can tell you about the apprehension that precedes inspection, the fun that accompanies it, and the depression and dread that follow on its heels." The Gamma Phis, like other groups, enjoyed the visit of the grand officer [Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), National Inspector], whose mission was more one of acquaintance than "inspection."

While "January should rightfully be the beginning of things," the waiting girls were sure that "it is seldom the beginning of anything quite as wonderful as it brought to us this year. Ruth received a telegram, and what a telegram! 'Grand Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha announces the granting of a charter to Gamma Phi.' Could any one describe the effect of those words on twenty-six girls? I cannot."

After that they "calmed down long enough to pledge and initiate Martha Vuncannon and Dorothy Ittman at midterm, and to elect new officers on March 8. We could not, of course, imagine having another president with Ruth still available." The other officers selected were Audrey Herbet, vice-president; Evelyn Maestri, secretary; Edna Morrison, treasurer, and Edwarda Parsons, Panhellenic representative.

Then during the Carnival season they were "glad to have a chance to do something as a group for Newcomb." Since the publishers of *New Orleans Life* offered the college one-third of the money realized from student magazine sales, the Gamma Phis entered the project with a zeal that resulted in their leading the other groups in the amount collected. This they reported "with becoming modesty." The money went for the new music building and the Newcomb fraternities worked under the auspices of the *alumnæ*. So the chapter "had many causes to enjoy life while they waited for their main purpose in life, initiation into Zeta Tau Alpha."

The date for installation was set, but the devastating spring flood of 1927 reached more and more dangerous proportions as the swollen waters of the Mississippi River grew in volume and destruction. That year changed the fortunes of more than one Louisiana family whose ruined sugarcane crops brought ruin to those families. As the crest of the flood neared New Orleans, grave fear was entertained for the safety of the city itself. But while the whole country watched with anxiety, the residents themselves, strangely enough,

felt little fear. Perhaps they could not quite realize it, but at any rate, the fear of the group waiting to be installed was not because of the flood. Their fear was that their installation date might be postponed.

Fortunately, Esther Brandao expressed their feelings clearly when she wrote that "Beta Kappa was installed under very uncertain and exciting conditions, for the Mississippi River had caused much distress in the country around New Orleans and the safety of our city was feared for by people all over the United States. The Red Cross was untiring in its efforts for the victims of the flood and our people gave liberal financial aid. The chief fear of members of our chapter was that Grand Chapter would (for they had inquired) postpone our installation, and we could easily understand their hesitation at sending anyone into the city at such a time. So it was with relief that we heard that Miss MacGregor was going to brave the flood and would initiate us on May 11."

Then followed for Zeta's National Inspector the unforgettable and terrifying trip from Shreveport when the train crept along on rails that were not always visible. But she got there, and so did other brave Zetas who made the trip to what had been labelled a danger spot. Miss MacGregor and Frances Thomas, Beta province president, arrived on Sunday, May 8, and that afternoon Anna Howe and Rose LeDieu (Mooney), members of the faculty, were initiated into Gamma Phi. On Monday morning the Alpha Nu members from Birmingham arrived: Elizabeth Stone, Catherine Wood (Stevens), Mildred Leonard, Lucille Cannon and Frances Mitchell.

After pledge services were held that night, "being pledges of Zeta Tau Alpha seemed the most wonderful thing in the world; we could hardly imagine that our happiness could be greater at initiation. Tuesday we did a hectic bit of last-minute studying and took our examinations in fear and trembling. Then came the day of days—initiation and installation. The initiation services, which continued until late afternoon, were all too impressive to be adequately talked about. Everyone who has been initiated can understand our delight, but only those who have been charter members of a chapter can appreciate the added thrill and happiness we felt."

The ceremonies were in charge of Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), assisted by Frances Thomas, Omicron; Ruth Virtue (O'Connor), Alpha Eta; Elizabeth Stone, Lucille Cannon, Mildred Leonard, Catherine Wood (Stevens), Frances Mitchell, Alpha Nu; Frances Farrell (Potts), Omicron; Virginia Ormond, Nu.

Beta Kappa's charter members were: Evelyn Maestri, Edwarda du Chiron Parsons (Macmurdo), Esther Brandao, Edna Morrison (Scatterty), Laura Barelli (Scheuermann), Audrey Herbert, Rose LeDieu (Mooney), Martha Vuncannon (Reixach), Patricia Lamb (Teague), Edith Fasterling (McKee), Georgette Thompson, Frances Neill, Anna Howe, Winifred Meisenheimer (McCain), Robbie Lang (Lloveras), Virginia Blanchard, Ruth Moss (Trenchard), Mari Louise Ryckman (Mullins) and Dorothy Ittman (Elder).



If the river—as it must have—provided an ominous undertone, nothing was recorded about it. The installation banquet was held “in a delightful courtyard” of the *vieux carré*, and “there were speeches from some of the girls, Miss MacGregor and Miss Thomas.” Two amusing skits preceded the surprise presentation of a cup for highest scholarship to Edna Morrison, which was surprising only because the chapter hadn’t known it was to be presented that night.

Their presentation tea was Thursday afternoon, when members of other women’s fraternities were invited to call. “Unfortunately, Miss MacGregor could not stay for the tea, but we were glad to have others meet Miss Thomas and our guests from Alpha Nu.” And “the pleasure of the tea was increased by the arrival of flowers from all the women’s fraternities.”

Thursday night’s “delightfully informal supper” given by their patronesses “brought an end to the excitement in which we had been living for four days,” but in time they wrote that they were then, “a little more calmly enjoying the new experience of wearing our pins, and reflecting on our wonderful good fortune in being considered worthy of initiation by Zeta Tau Alpha.”

New Orleans weathered one of its most critical flood menaces. The river subsided; a spillway was built to protect the city. But for many, things were never the same after the damage and disaster of 1927. But the Zetas who braved the flood to keep a date with a group of eager New Orleans girls found their own reward in the happiness of the new Beta Kappas, and their memories match those of the girls who worked long months for the realization of their goal.

BETA LAMBDA: Emerging from the Deep South of Louisiana where the two previous chapters were placed, Zeta Tau Alpha went back to Kentucky just as the year 1927 was coming to a close. Beta Lambda’s is the story of a university’s growth and of the inspiration afforded a local group by a member of the fraternity.

When, in September, 1925, the university moved to the new campus, “the history of a greater University of Louisville began.” With the first four months of the fall term of 1925-1926, four new women’s groups were founded, and one of them was the forerunner of Zeta’s Beta Lambda chapter which was installed a year later.

“Nine girls who had been congenial in high school and the university,” were the charter members of the local group they called Zeta Delta Pi. They were: Frances McMinn, the first president, Antoinette Pfeffer (Knittel), Ethel Weeter (Lovell), Jane Perkins (Dudgeon), Mary Joe Godfrey (McDonald), Gladys Gilligan, Elva Rabuck, Anna Lawrence Kaye (Wilcox), and Mary Hubbard (Miller). Ethel Weeter’s brother, Dr. H. M. Weeter, Phi Gamma Delta, and Mrs. Weeter, became the chapter advisers. Under their wise

guidance Zeta Delta Pi had many advantages not usually available to young local groups.

After organization had been perfected, and the group was well established on the campus, they "decided to petition a well-known fraternity, one which fulfilled all of our ideals and hopes." While they were still undecided as to which one to petition they "met Alice Porter (Moore), Zeta, then president of Delta province." Immediately, "they decided that Zeta Tau Alpha and no other" was their ideal. Inspired and with singleness of purpose they "began to work most industriously to improve scholarship, to take a leading place in campus activities, and to furnish the apartment" they had taken.

Then, "fearing and hoping, trembling and smiling, when the good news came that Zeta Delta Pi had received permission to petition, they prepared their petition and sent it to the grand officers. In the period of suspense which followed, they entered into scholastic and campus activities with renewed force and vigor," they related. Beta Lambda was the first chapter to come under the new inspection policy decided upon by the 1926-1928 Grand Chapter, namely, that of having both an informal and formal inspection.

From nearby Lexington the new Vice-President, Bruce Houston Davis, went over to Louisville to meet the girls informally. Finding a well-sponsored group that was heartily recommended, Mrs. Davis returned later for the formal inspection and the chapter expressed themselves as "delighted and yet awed in April when we were formally inspected by Bruce Houston Davis, Grand Vice-President. We had had the pleasure of meeting her a few months before when she visited us informally. . . . We were afraid, though, that the results of the formal inspection might not be in favor of Zeta Delta Pi, but after Mrs. Davis came we forgot our awe of a grand officer and entered into three days of conferences and social affairs. Her gracious and charming personality made us love and admire her and wish more than ever that we might be her Zeta sisters." In June, while passing through Louisville en route home from Texas, Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout) also met the group informally.

While reports were being studied and official steps gone through, "months of suspense and anxious waiting followed." Monday afternoon meetings were held during the summer at Mrs. Moore's home "where we met other Zetas and became better acquainted with Zeta standards and songs."

Then September came and with it "the telegram which we had hoped and prayed for." Zeta Tau Alpha had granted a charter to Zeta Delta Pi.

With little delay, on the evening of September 12, 1927, Zeta Delta Pi's members were pledged to Zeta Tau Alpha by Alice Porter Moore, assisted by Lorena Weber (Campbell) and Volinda Irvine (Winchester), Alpha Chi. Installation took place on December 17, with Mrs. Davis as the officiating grand officer, assisted by Mrs. Moore and Lorena Weber (Campbell), Volinda Irvine (Winchester), Nell Lacefield, Dorothy Monroe (Kahler), Jane Ann Carlton



(Farrant), Kathleen Carlton (Cross), Elizabeth Strossman (Fogle), Gladys Wilson (Gibson), Nancy Mary Wilson (Owsley), Louise Smathers (Duff), Lavergne Lester (Pollard), Lucille Hamilton and Edith Thomas, all Alpha Chis, who came from the University of Kentucky. The ceremonies were held "in the beautiful home of Mrs. Moore," in Louisville.

Those initiated that day, who wrote that "the beauty and depth of the entire ceremony will always remain within our hearts just as our Zeta pins will always remain over our hearts," were: Antoinette Pfeffer (Knittel), Edith Wilson (Williams), Mary Joe Godfrey (McDonald), Maurine Green (Herbster), Anna Lawrence Kaye (Wilcox), Ruth Keller (Moore), Martha Zabel (Johnson), Gladys McDonald (Wobbe), Mary Hubbard (Miller), Estelle Poindexter, Virginia Leigh (Satterly), Marjorie Thurber (Blesi), Carolyn Nestele (Weinstein), Evelyn Gregory (Mattmiller), Sue Frances Perry (Ray), Frances Kennerly (Morton), Elva Rabuck, Ann Hathaway Ball (Quick), Virginia Keyer, Mildred Osburn (Hungerland), Ethel Weeter (Lovell), Virginia Becker (Steilberg), college members; Jane Perkins (Dudgeon), Alice Ruff (Spalding), Mabel Slout (Weeter), Oneta Liter and Katy Sue Bivins (Moore), alumnæ.

"About fifty Zetas gathered around the banquet table—all of them looking their prettiest and singing their sweetest on this rare and festive occasion which was the installation banquet of Beta Lambda chapter," they wrote gaily. "This was the delightful ending of a day which had been given over completely to our initiation into Zeta. It was a great joy to have around us, at this memorable time, our many new Zeta sisters, including Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Moore, and the Alpha Chi girls from the University of Kentucky, who so tirelessly and capably officiated throughout the services of the day."

A formal reception at the Seelbach Hotel, on December 20, was the concluding event in their "installation celebration." "Coming at this season of the year," they wrote, "when everyone was keyed to the highest pitch of excitement, the success of our initial function was a certainty. There were many happy moments for us that evening. Especially happy were those when we introduced to our guests the one woman who had been our inspiration and guide throughout those months of working to become Zetas . . . our sponsor and province president—Alice Porter Moore."

Ending the evening that was a highlight in their lives, they remembered the "gay dancing, the proud and happy faces of the girls, the blue and grey banner hanging at one end of the hall." It was all "a charming picture stamped indelibly on the mind of every Beta Lambda member of Zeta Tau Alpha."

Zeta Tau Alpha was the third national fraternity for women at the University of Louisville.

BETA MU: A swing of several thousand miles to the Pacific Northwest next forged Beta Mu's link in the Zeta chain of chapters when a charter grant went



to a strong, established local of many years' standing at Washington State College, in Pullman, Washington.

Kappa Beta was founded as a local social organization on October 20, 1919, by Lillian Stuart, Josephine Vogler (Harford), Catherine Arps, Jeanette Cooper, Viola Sauer (Downing), Helen Koreski (Offerman), Fern Vickerman, Hazel Gray, Lorna Robinson and Harriet Stewart (Vollmer).

Although the group was first formed in Stevens Hall, the women's dormitory, Kappa Beta laid plans for complete development, the first step of which was the purchase, in 1920, of a house at 1607 Ruby Street.

While this definitely put them in the substantial class, Kappa Beta quickly became known for other activities. Beginning with 1920, the chapter led the other Greek-letter groups in scholarship, a silver loving cup being their reward. Since the forty-six campus organizations were included on the scholarship list, Kappa Beta's rank represented real achievement. The chapter also won the homecoming sign award two successive times, the words Kappa Beta being engraved on the cup twice in a remarkably short time.

Other honors fell to them. Out of eight Final Emblem awards, two went to Mary Keeth (Sparkman) and Beryl Price. The annual Final Emblem award of the Women's Athletic Association went to the girl of the highest athletic ability who also possessed good scholarship, as well as the qualities of leadership and personality. It was a real distinction to be the recipient of it. Kappa Beta's members were chosen for Mortar Board, Pi Lambda Theta, Phi Kappa Phi and other groups rewarding proficiency and merit.

Their "two big dances of the year, one formal and one informal, were supplemented by other small house dances," while a charming tradition was carried out in the annual spring tulip luncheon to which faculty women, townspeople, and representatives from each women's group were invited. "A house mother's tea" was also given each year.

Then Kappa Beta decided to petition Zeta Tau Alpha. On May 7, 1927, Bernice Kirkham (Terry), Mu-Psi, visited them informally, with a formal inspection by Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), National Inspector, following on October 14-15 of the same year.

A ban placed on the college because of an epidemic caused a slight postponement of Beta Mu's installation date, "but when the week end came, it proved to be the most exciting one in our entire college careers, as well as the happiest," the Pullman Zetas wrote. Actually, there was only a week's delay, but it seemed like a long time to the eager chapter.

With Thursday came the arrival of the installing officer and the group of visiting Zetas who traveled various distances to assist with the services and to welcome the new northwestern chapter. Examinations that afternoon were followed by formal pledging Thursday night and the new Beta Mus' pride in their pledge pins paralleled that of all other new groups. "Pledge pins were

worn all day Friday," they reported proudly, "and it can readily be surmised how elated and superior our pledges felt when we, too, came out with pledge pins. We were very proud to wear our carpenter's squares that one day.

"But there was calamity, too," they lamented. "Agnes Driscoll (Rice) and Helen Mighell came down with measles, and Bernice Ohneck was stricken with mumps, just before initiation, so the three spent their looked-forward-to days in the hospital shedding very real tears of disappointment. The chapter felt quite as badly, but fate sometimes takes a hand in affairs, giving them . . . a turn over which we have no control." Fortunately there were no other cases and the rest of the program went along on schedule.

Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs) returned for the installation and on the weekend of February 23-25, 1928, Kappa Beta became Beta Mu chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha. The National Inspector and Helen Clair, Mu province president, conducted the ceremonies, assisted by Bernice Kirkham Terry, Mu-Psi; Virginia Foster, Ellene Simpson (Browning), Mary Elizabeth Banton, Psi; Frances Robbins (Swing), Alpha Gamma-Psi; Nettie Pfaff (Butcher), Alpha Mu, and Bernadine Arant, Alpha Sigma.

Those initiated in the ceremonies held at the chapter house were: Helen Thiebes (Stewart), Vivian Killin (Moller), Wilma Dimmick, Grace Norvell (Williams), Mildred Perkins (Jenks), Helen VanDivort (Horan), Mary Jane Lang (Guettinger), Lita Reeves (Ray), Zona Frey (Lydig), Edna Carthew, Della Crumpacker (Chard), Corrine Smith (Burrows), Ethel Thurber, Lovice Nelson (Shropshire), Mary Dixon, Mildred Gunning (DeVoe), Bernice Carmichael (Burns), Marguerite Dunlop, Anne Norvell (Pilkey), Harriet Sage (Dunn), Dorothy Sage (Men Muir), Thelma Johnson (Langdon), Frances Morrison, Esther Bassett, Eleanor Axelson (Durfy), Inez Waldorf (Riney), Donna Jean Trumbull (Morrow), Martha Lindsey (Bruckner), Marie Hull (Sullivan), Josephine Brown, Margaret Batterton (Price), Hallene Chard, Ella Russell (Beardsley), Genevieve Horan, Dorothy Grimes (Berreman), Signe Jeanne Larson (MacMartin), Alfreda Crumpacker (Richardson), Helen Reese (Holmes), Helen Hudson (Wixson), Mabelle Luiten (Gerards). The three measles and mumps casualties were initiated later.

The new fraternity was cordially welcomed to the Washington State College campus. The Saturday afternoon formal presentation tea "was a beautiful affair, skillfully planned," the chapter reminisced. "The room . . . suggested a floral shop. Cut flowers, plants and palms were everywhere. Nearly every sorority and fraternity sent flowers. . . ." Townspeople, faculty wives, house directors and representatives from the women's fraternities called during the afternoon.

The "never-to-be-forgotten banquet that evening at the Commons found fifty-three Zetas dressed their loveliest, with spirits keyed to the excitement of the occasion. The distinctly formal setting lent an atmosphere which gave us extreme happiness in the realization that we had reached the goal toward

which we had worked," Beta Mu wrote.

In four short days the work of years was realized in the fulfillment of their aspirations for affiliation with a national organization. On Sunday morning "Miss MacGregor gave instructions to officers and members. By afternoon we had said goodbye to all the guests, and we were left to meditate and rejoice over the happy event."

Zeta Tau Alpha was the fourteenth national fraternity for women at Pullman.

**BETA NU:** For this chapter the scene shifted to the far southwestern state of New Mexico, where, near Las Cruces, in the Rio Grande Valley, New Mexico State College is situated. Early records commented that "a more historic site could scarcely have been chosen, for it was through this valley that the Spanish conquistadores first went in search of gold and precious stones, and it was through Old Mesilla, a Mexican village about two miles from the college, that the first American pioneers traveling over the Santa Fé trail stopped to rest after their dangerous journey over the Jorado del Muerto (Journey of Death).

Inseparable from it and woven into its story is the setting of the college. The tiled domes of the buildings against the majestic, jagged peaks of the Organ Mountains leave an indelible impression, while directly behind the college sprawls Tortugas Mountain, so named because of its likeness to a giant turtle.

Arresting in the saga of Beta Nu is the pride with which they emphasized that "the most incredible pioneering the world has ever known overran New Mexico with the zeal of a prairie fire over 350 years ago, and that unparalleled blaze is not dead. The self-confidence, independence, and determination which were bred in pioneers are characteristics which dominate the state," they wrote in 1928.

And that powerful statement was not irrelevant to the founding story of Beta Nu, for it was "this characteristic to forge ahead that led to the founding of Delta Sigma, the first local organization for women on the campus of the New Mexico State College." The names of Gretchen Van Vleck (Wright), Mary Tiley, Florence Berrier (Alberson), Bessie French (Hendricks), Ruth Koger (Patton), Margaret Limbaugh (Jobe), Marie Trentman, Nell Hargrove (Ives), Sue Thompson (Holt), Gladys Wilson, Ursula Dickinson (Kent), Mate Lewis (Waterman) and Blanche Gilmore appear as the charter members who organized the chapter on November 8, 1921. Delta Sigma was proud that this list included "outstanding women on the campus, in the community and in the state."

The new group had a brilliant career. "The first girl to hold an office in the student body organization was a Delta Sigma" and at the time of installation the chapter boasted that "Delta Sigma has never lost a bid. Among our prominent members we list the wife of the president of the college, the registrar of the college, the vocational home economics supervisor for the state, one of New Mexico's foremost musicians and several outstanding teach-



ers." In 1928, the *Round-Up* editorship was held by a woman for the first time. Rhett Bronson was the Delta Sigma who held the post.

At the annual Kollege Kactus Karnival, for five successive years a Delta Sigma was elected May Queen and the most popular girl. When a scholarship cup was offered the year before Beta Nu's installation, "it was typical of Delta Sigma that she won the cup the first year it was awarded."

A formal dance and several smaller ones were on their yearly social calendar. At an autumn tea they entertained all the campus women and every spring there was a picnic in the mountains. In 1928 they especially mentioned that "for the past two or three years we have given a tea in honor of the dean of women, Miss Doyne Koonce, a Zeta Tau Alpha" from the University of Indiana chapter.

The pioneering spirit was next evinced when the group envisioned what it would mean to become the first chapter of a national fraternity on the campus, and the first chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha in New Mexico. In 1924, when Flora Steen (Hamiel), Alpha Xi, became Delta Sigma's sponsor, that vision began taking definite shape, for Mrs. Hamiel's was the guiding hand which helped most "toward making Beta Nu chapter a reality."

In May, 1927, Mary Ann Gillespie, president of Theta-Iota province, visited the group informally, while in December of that year the chapter was formally inspected by Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), the National Inspector.

Fully recognizing the excellence of the chapter and its personnel, Grand Chapter granted the charter and installation took place during the Thanksgiving vacation, November 29-December 2, 1928. A whirl of events filled those four days.

The Thursday afternoon meeting at which Mrs. Gardner "gave the opening address" was held at the home of President H. L. Kent and Mrs. Kent. That same afternoon, Panhellenic entertained in honor of Zeta's President. Receiving were Mrs. L. N. Berry, Delta Delta Delta, president of the local Panhellenic; Mrs. Gardner; Mrs. Kent; Rhett Bronson (French), Beta Nu's president, and the former president, Mary Will (Davis).

That evening the Zeta group again went to the hospitable Kent home where pledge services were held from six until nine o'clock. From pledging they went to a dance given in honor of Beta Nu by two local fraternities, Phi Beta Theta and Phi Chi Psi, "at the new library building in Las Cruces." There "thirty-two blue and gray pledge ribbons were proudly worn for the first time."

After Friday morning's examinations were over "everyone felt a great deal better" and "the delicious luncheon served by the alumnae members at the home of Mrs. Kent" was thoroughly enjoyed.

At six o'clock Friday night the initiation services began. Officiating was the Grand President, Bertha Cruse (Gardner). Assisting her were Mary Ann Gillespie, Tau; Ethel Cruse (Mouton), Margaret Levy (Feuille), Irma Mathee (Coldwell), Louise Kettler (Helper), Kappa Zetas who came from El Paso; Carolyn Gillespie (Haner), Tau; Zelpha Bates, Alpha Mu; Doyne Koonce

(Garst), Flora Steen (Hamiel), Alpha Xi.

The following were initiated: Installation initiates—Ursula Dickinson (Kent), Ada Lee Cruse (Reinhard), Lola Wilson (Milton), Amelia Cowen (Shaw), Maude Tully (Guthrie), Era Hall Rentfrow, Ruth Boan (Walker), Vina Robertson (Gardner). Alumnæ members—Mary Will (Davis), Irene Hammel (Esquivel), Katherine Holt (Rutz), Johnnie Odom (Flowers), Dorothy Yoast (Hanny), Nell Hargrove (Ives), Vella Spivey (Renfro), Maurine Dyne (Buckley). College members—Rhetta Bronson (French), Monique Sweet (Minor), Freddie Lee Bradford (Nickles), Elizabeth Hoagland (Pike), Cora Lee Akin (Brown), Gretchen Mielenz (Reames), Jewel Flowers, Alice Hoyland, Frances Yoast (Wise), Edith Hunter Lewis (Berthelon), Elizabeth Campbell (Robertson), Elise Courtney (Howe), Maudie Lowe, Martha Evans (Morgan), Pearl Dahl (Waterstreet) and Mary Steen (Reister). Interesting was the fact that the first initiate was the new Grand President's sister, Ada Lee Cruse (Reinhard).

Saturday morning saw ritual service and installation of officers. The afternoon was "given over to instructions."

Installation's climaxing event was the banquet Saturday night at the Community House in Las Cruces. "During the five-course dinner the guests were entertained by Spanish songs and dances." Leather cardcases bearing the Zeta Tau Alpha coat-of-arms were the favors. From the banquet the Zetas went to the Amador Hotel "where a dance was given by two other local fraternities, Alpha Delta Theta and Gamma Sigma."

"We ended our first day gloriously happy," the chapter declared, but there was still another event—"a Zeta breakfast (given by the installation initiates) in the home economics room at nine o'clock Sunday morning." Then that afternoon the installing officer, the alumnæ and the guests left, "leaving many never-to-be-forgotten memories."

## Conventions

### *and Grand Chapter Meetings*

#### Eighth National Convention

THE WAR WAS OVER. The armistice had been signed the year before, on November 11, 1918, and a war-taut country relaxed and settled down to the complex adjustments that always follow war's upheaval and dislocations. It was time to get back to normal life and ways, and Zeta Tau Alpha wanted to return to its regular program as soon as possible.

With 1919 the year, the third decade of conventions was inevitably ushered in by a post-war conclave which, although it reestablished the convention schedule, differed somewhat from the usual pattern in one respect. Due to a late decision to meet that year, announcements went out after colleges had closed. But the eighth national convention, with nearby Tau as the hostess chapter, held August 2-9, 1919, at the Congress Hotel, in Chicago, Illinois, brought the clan together for the first time in four years. And convention sanction for the unusual procedure was duly voted when, "because of the haste with which the convention was called, Grand Chapter's action contrary to the constitution (in order that all chapters be officially represented) was, in this instance, approved."<sup>1</sup>

A late train prevented Fanny Hunter (Taylor), acting President for the past twelve months, from presiding. Consequently, Dr. Hopkins, recently returned from France, took charge of the opening meeting. The first convention to be held in the state of Illinois was welcomed by Violet Mattes (Woare), representing Tau chapter. Grand officers present were: President, Dr. Hopkins; Vice-President (acting President during Dr. Hopkins' absence), Fanny Hunter (Taylor); Secretary, Clair Woodruff (Bugg); Treasurer, Mary L. Patrick; Historian, Gladys Ayland (Glade); Inspector, Julia Coe (Rose); Editor, Christine Bertholas (Olsen).

Official delegates were: Lafrances Lewis (Campbell), Delta; Ernestine Bowden (Mabry), Zeta; Martha Rule (Beasley), Epsilon; Eva Neville (Laycock), Theta; Frances Bussey (Johns) and Christie Moore (Garwood), Kappa; Margaret Barcus (Kent) and Helen Gillett (Neal), Lambda; Helen Volker and



Hazel Lohmeyer (Windle), Mu; Willie May Lathram (Wefel), Nu; Helen Harrison, Xi; Shirley Brinkley (Strum), Omicron; Ednah Maynard (Abbott), Rho; Monita Franklin (Cox) and Catherine Eaton (Dicus), Sigma; Adeline Mattes (Koch) and Violet Mattes (Woare), Tau; Helen Kielsden (Stacey), Upsilon; Estelle Warlick (Hillman) and Lota Leigh Draughton (Baum), Phi; Flora Hitzfeldt (Tesh), Chi; Sarah T. Morgan (Jackson), Omega; Maurine Hiatt (Roberts), Psi; Berdine Coles (Freeborn) and Lucille Robertson, Alpha Alpha; Marion Holmes (Jones), Alpha Beta.

It was largely a working convention and it achieved legislation characterized as "progressive, protective and farseeing." The revision of the constitution and by-laws was considered the most important business transacted. The 1918 Grand Chapter meeting that substituted for convention had paved the way, by the appointment of a committee to work on such a revision. Wise, indeed, was the new procedure governing amendments. Up to this time no advance notice had been necessary for any pending change or motion coming up at a convention. A motion could be submitted and carried in a single session with no opportunity for reflective consideration or study. Recognizing the resultant danger from pressures or hasty and ill-advised action, the Chicago meeting wisely made mandatory a thirty-day notice to chapters prior to convention.

Considered vitally important was the clarification or clear-cut establishment of the powers of the officers as well as those of convention, the legislative body. All through the unusual and uncharted days of the war just behind them, the officers in charge often reiterated the scrupulous care with which they guarded against exceeding the powers they felt were theirs.

In previous years a number of minor issues had been put before the chapters for vote between conventions. "Due to postponing conventions to 1915 and 1919, Grand Chapter had to act on a few matters," wrote the chairman of the 1919 Constitution Committee.

The new rule requiring the submission of a constitutional amendment thirty days before convention made it impossible thereafter to make any measure permanent by presenting it for chapter vote between conventions. That, of course, had nothing to do with the securing of chapter opinion on important matters, but it took care of a point which was of much concern at that time.

Other action taken included the adoption of a uniform accounting system, to be selected by the Finance Committee; the bonding of the National Treasurer who heretofore had not been bonded; and the adoption of a definite scholarship standard for initiation and affiliation. Annual inspections and annual examinations, to be given under the direction of the National Inspector, were authorized. The retention of the office of custodian of the badge, with duties separate from those of the Grand Secretary, bestowed official blessing on an innovation tried out "unofficially" since the 1917 Grand Chapter meeting. However, it could not be considered official until this convention, even

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### *Zeta Tau Alpha Code of Ethics*

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FACING the social issues of the world today, we, the Zeta Tau Alphas, answering the challenge of the masses, affirm our belief:

1. That the first duty of a college woman is to know the community in which she lives that she may serve its greatest needs, that she may put her life into actual contact with other lives who need her.
2. That she is today a citizen of the world, that all countries are calling upon her for her best.
3. That to whom much is given, of her much is required.
4. That to live up to her privileges and responsibilities she needs to seek wisdom, the wisdom that gives understanding and all-round judgment, that releases all the abilities.
5. That to secure this wisdom she must take her code of ethics from the teaching of Christ who taught that the one who would be greatest must be servant of all.
6. That the highest type of a college woman, such as we desire the Zeta Tau Alphas to be, should stand for the following principles, adopted by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America:
  - a. For the protection of the family, by the single standard of purity, uniform divorce laws, proper regulation of marriage, and proper housing laws.
  - b. For the fullest possible development for every child, especially by the provision of proper education and recreation.
  - c. For such regulation of the conditions of toil for women as shall safeguard the physical and moral health of the community.
  - d. For equal rights and complete justice for all women in all stations of life.
7. That we, as Zeta Tau Alphas, should teach both by precept and example, reverence for Zeta Tau Alpha's ideals.
8. That a college woman only truly comes into her own, only knows the abundant life, when she consecrates her all to service for the Kingdom of God, wherein shall dwell righteousness.

Clair Woodruff Bugg, *Alpha*

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though in 1918 the chapters had given Grand Chapter the "power to act." In a transfer from the Grand Secretary, the Vice-President inherited the work of compiling the fraternity directory. This was done to relieve the pressure of work in the former's office. Chapter convention funds were to defray the expenses of the alternate delegate. A more extensive and cooperative use of the *Secret Letter* was urged. For the first time *Themis* was reported to be self-supporting. A delighted convention thereupon moved to continue the magazine's satisfactory status by stipulating that a subscription to *Themis* be added as a requirement for alumnae chapter membership.

The national initiation fee was raised to \$15, with \$4 of that amount to be credited to the National Convention Fund, and \$3.50 credited to *Themis*, apportioned as usual. The National Scholarship Fund became the beneficiary of commissions on pins and all interest not otherwise provided for. Prices for the new directory were set at sixty cents for paper binding and seventy-five cents



for cloth cover, with sales under the supervision of the Grand Treasurer. The long-hoped-for songbook was again on the agenda. To insure its publication each chapter was required to purchase twenty copies. A uniform binding for the chapter secretaries' and treasurers' books was adopted. Several additions to the ritual were made.

The action of the 1915 convention was rescinded when it was decided to retain the charter in its present design, without any changes or additions. Clair Woodruff Bugg's *Code of Ethics* was adopted officially, and the inclusion of an honor ring in the contents of the installation trunk was authorized.

The convention recognized the official coat-of-arms and permitted its use in college annuals and wherever practicable. The word *official*, in this instance, referred to the original in size and dimensions. However, because of its size and the difficulty in outlining the cloud satisfactorily, the assembly approved the use of the coat-of-arms in smaller size, in outline, for novelty purposes. Each chapter was hereafter required to own an official die. Another projection into the future was the vote to copyright the badge, a move which came many years later. Official action also prohibited attaching any other pin to a Zeta Tau Alpha badge. Membership certificates were again planned for by the appointment of a committee to submit designs at the next convention.

A special campaign for expansion was authorized and a committee on extension was appointed by the chair. Five chapters—Chi, Omega, Psi, Alpha Alpha and Alpha Beta had been added since the California convention, while a total membership of 1,800 was reported, as against 668 announced four years before.

In a critical analysis, the institution of rushing won no commendation. Instead, convention went on record as believing that "since rushing is not in



Ethel M. Charnock



Helen M. Donaldson



harmony with the standards of Zeta Tau Alpha, and certainly beneath the dignity and loyalty of Zeta Tau Alpha, each girl in the chapter [should] put forth her best energy and use every influence to simplify Panhellenic rules." Years later few remembered or knew about Zeta's convention-recorded estimation of a perennially discussed system that was still under fire decades later.

The decision as to whether or not the services of a private secretary should be furnished the Grand President was referred to the Constitution Committee. This discussion revolved around the then-moot question of having a remunerated fraternity officer to handle the work in a Central Office which might be created, or to furnish further help for the President. The immediate result of this was the constitutional provision for necessary clerical help for all members of Grand Chapter.

Convention authorized the publication in separate books of the constitution and by-laws, the ritual and all services. The initiation service, it was stipulated, should be typewritten. Evidently, the typically Zeta use of the word "vignette" needed clarification, for "the meaning of the word 'vignette' was interpreted to be an explanation of the symbols."

One day was given over to an open meeting when Miss Mary McDowell, resident head of the University Settlement of Chicago, spoke on "The Social Service Ideals of an Educated Woman." Following Miss McDowell, Dr. Hopkins talked on "The Upbuilding of a Nobler and Purer Womanhood."

Grand officers elected were: President, Dr. Hopkins; Vice-President, Fanny Hunter (Taylor); Secretary, Helen Donaldson; Treasurer, Ethel Charnock; Inspector, Evelyn Callicutt; Historian, Gladys Ayland (Glade); Editor,\* Abbie Graham. The Secretary and Editor were elected *in absentia*.

With the consent of the chapters, Grand Chapter was authorized to select the next convention location.

Although essentially a business convention, there was a social side, too. One night was devoted to Dr. Hopkins' story of her work in France. The skilled raconteuse held her hearers spellbound. A storm cancelled the boat-ride on Lake Michigan, but a picnic supper, sightseeing and the theatres proved adequate last-minute substitutes. Stunt Night made its successful second appearance. At the model initiation, Mary Heitzmann Detrich, recommended by Mu, was the initiate.

The Congress Hotel orchestra furnished the music for Friday evening's concluding banquet held in the Florentine room. Introduced were two songs from the songbook then in the process of compilation—a high light of the evening. The fraternity's turquoise blue and steel grey were carried out in the decorations. The poised toastmistress was Martha McIntosh (Morrison), Tau. The four-leaf clover provided the theme for the formal toasts, as follows:

\* No formal picture was available of Abbie Graham.

|                                       |                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| One is for Faith .....                | Leo Griffiths       |
| And One is for Hope .....             | Ethel Charnock      |
| One Is for Love You Know .....        | Christine Bertholas |
| And God Put Another in for Luck ..... | Lucille Robertson   |

Impromptu speeches that delighted everyone were given by Dr. Hopkins, Clair Bugg, Mary Patrick, Dr. Susan Offutt, Shirley Brinkley (Strum), Gladys Ayland (Glade) and others. Since Clair Bugg and Mary Patrick were retiring after many years of service, theirs were the swan songs of officers whose work had been well done.

Then "Auld Lang Syne" brought to a close a convention marked by consistent work through the hottest days of summer in the Middle West, when heat is heat, and can be called nothing else.

### Grand Chapter Meeting (Dallas, Texas—1920)

Not quite a year after convention the President called a Grand Chapter meeting—again in Dallas, Texas—which was held June 21-27, 1920. It proved to be a meeting of great importance. Two resignations were on the docket—those of the President and Vice-President.

After twelve years as head of the fraternity, the increasing demands of her heavy medical practice, and the growing time requirements of a rapidly expanding fraternity made necessary Dr. Hopkins' relinquishment of the office she had again accepted the previous June. With regret, but understanding, Grand Chapter accepted the task of selecting a successor. Fanny Hunter Taylor, too, had found it impossible to continue in office.



Alpha Burkart Wettach



Mary Poggi Richley

The officers who traveled to Texas to meet with the President-hostess were: Secretary, Helen Donaldson; Treasurer, Ethel Charnock; Historian, Gladys Ayland Glade; Inspector, Evelyn Callicutt, and the Editor, Abbie Graham.

Resolving the resignation problem, replacement appointees selected were Alpha Burkart (Wettach), Chi, who was offered the presidency, and Mary Poggi (Richley), Xi, who succeeded a fellow-Californian as Vice-President. May Hopkins' continued participation on Grand Chapter was assured by her retention as the official N.P.C. Delegate, a duty which was then constitutionally attached to the presidency. Because of the constitutional barrier to the separation of duties in an office, and the creation of a new one, Grand Chapter's course was to create the special office of N.P.C. Delegate, the incumbent to be a member of Grand Chapter.

To call the move far-reaching and important is to understate the meeting's decision to establish a Central Office. The plan accepted called for an office under the direction of the Grand President, to be located with her during the trial period until the next convention. The President was also given the services of a private secretary—a point which was discussed, but not passed, at the Chicago convention. However, since the Grand Secretary had the necessary secretarial qualifications, it was felt that circumstances warranted combining the duties of private secretary to the President with those of the office of Grand Secretary, the two being considered compatible to the planners. The combination was effected and the Secretary became the fraternity's first full-time remunerated officer.

With that move Zeta Tau Alpha forged ahead into new phases of development. Although the experimental combination survived only a few years and had obvious defects, the establishment of a Central Office and the practical recognition, by remuneration, of a full-time post, were actions of a grown-up organization that recognized not only present needs but knew the direction in which the future pointed—and took the steps needed.

But the irresistible trend of ensuing years was to nullify the meeting's expressed conviction when it went on record as "disapproving of chapter houses, but heartily approving club rooms." The minutes explained that "chapter houses run up chapter expenses and since it is almost impossible to get efficient chaperons and, because of the lack of proper chaperonage, there always arises trouble between the chapter and the university authorities which militates against fraternities." On many occasions the President had stated her definite conviction along those lines. But just as the previous convention had, with ample grounds, virtually denounced, via conclave disapproval, the melee that was then rushing, just so was this housing pronouncement to be void as long as the trend lay in the other direction—as it did through continuing years.

Authorized was the bonding of the custodian of pins, who was handling a mounting amount of money. Dr. Hopkins was to compile a list of educational



questions for the chapters. The disposition of the office supplies of resigning officers was settled. *Themis*, the group decided, was to carry advertisements from none but firms handling official Zeta Tau Alpha material.

Stern measures were planned for dilatory chapters, when the Inspector was empowered to fine them \$10 for imperfectly kept files. Putting a double set of teeth in the measure, she was also privileged to remain until the files were in proper condition, assessing the chapter \$10 a day for each day of her enforced stay. It was never recorded how many chapters felt the force of that edict, but perhaps it had a temporarily preventive effect.

The long-talked-about songbook still had not materialized, but its realization was not far off when Sigma chapter was appointed to edit it. Beta chapter was given charge of the *Secret Letter*. "Technical classes" at convention, under the direction of the Inspector, were planned. Collection of the file of a former grand officer was entrusted to the Grand Treasurer.

Southern Methodist University, where Omega was established a few years previously, was visited. Diversions consisted of dinners together and several drives, but the drives were often largely business sessions, since many of the meetings were held in Dr. Hopkins' car. The other officers drove with her while she made her professional calls—and they talked—and planned—and decided.

### *Ninth National Convention\** (The Silver Anniversary)

Zeta Tau Alpha was twenty-five years old in 1923. Achieving the quarter-century mark, 1923 was the year in which to have a birthday party, cake and all. Normally, following the triennial pattern, the meeting was scheduled for 1922, but by chapter vote it was postponed a year. Again, as in 1915, the condition of the convention fund was a major, if not an unavoidable, determining factor, for a western location had been chosen. But postponement was salutary, for it made possible a silver anniversary convention.

High in the Rocky Mountains, the ninth national convention was held June 30-July 6, 1923, at the YMCA Conference<sup>2</sup> grounds, Association Camp, Colorado. Alpha Epsilon and the Denver Alumnæ were listed as the hostesses. A week's Grand Chapter meeting preceded convention.

Time had swept by, and suddenly Zeta's Founders faced the incredible fact that a quarter of a century had passed since they first laid their ambitious plans. The years had been abundantly full for them and for Zeta Tau Alpha, but they had passed with unbelievable swiftness. And while they were no longer the eager young girls of 1898, they certainly felt no burden of the years in the sense of aged appearance. However, almost everyone except a Founder

\* From this point on, convention pictures became too large for inclusion. No picture was taken of the Chicago conclave.

expected a Founder to look like a Founder was expected to look, and that was not youthful.

Thus the not-at-all-old-looking pair who made the trip from Virginia to Colorado entertained advance worries and uncertainties. Did they look like Founders? They were afraid they did not. Would their "progeny" be disappointed that they did not look older? That they looked more like two of the *alumnæ*? To that they made one concession. Short hair was gaining a firmer hold in the country and Alice Coleman had never been one to lag behind the times. But realizing she would look even younger with short hair, she and Frances Yancey Smith, by mutual agreement, decided to maintain their *status quo* hair styles until convention was over.

Colorado in the summer, and a silver anniversary were twin lures that made the convention the largest thus far. Over 200 names were listed on the convention register.

The opening session was presided over by the President who, after a short introductory speech, introduced the two honor guests, Alice Bland Coleman and Frances Yancey Smith, Founders.

Grand officers present were: President, Alpha Burkart (Wettach); Vice-President, Mary Poggi (Richley); Secretary, Helen Donaldson; Treasurer, Ethel Charnock; Editor, Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout) (appointed in 1922 upon the resignation of Abbie Graham); Inspector, Evelyn Callicut; N.P.C. Delegate, May Agness Hopkins. Gladys Ayland Glade had previously resigned as Historian, but due to the nature of the work in that office no one had been appointed for the short time left before convention.

Official delegates were: Delta, Lida Smith (Mayo); Epsilon, Alice McNair (McColley); Zeta, Jean Blair (Porter); Theta, Sarah Baker (Carson); Kappa, Elizabeth Greenlee (Kelley); Lambda, Eleanor Allen (Harris); Mu, Ruth McGuire (Mattingly); Nu, Edith Allen (Howell); Xi, Elinor Rogers; Omicron, Alice Lee Hooker (Keeler); Rho, Irene Carr (Hammond); Sigma, Marguerite Bignall; Tau, Helen Coffey (Carson); Upsilon, Karen Kieldsen (Flynn); Phi, Margaret Frank (Heath); Chi, Mary Cook Hangartner; Psi, Lena Puymbroeck (Miller); Omega, Claire Wofford (Crandall); Alpha Alpha, Ruby King (Cole); Alpha Beta, Leila Morton Barnes; Alpha Gamma, Marion Taylor (White); Alpha Delta, Estelle Fisk (Bowen); Alpha Epsilon, Ovidia Bordahl; Alpha Zeta, Genevieve Hess (Law); Alpha Theta, Maroe Fouts (Thornburg); Alpha Eta, Esther Rockel; Alpha Iota, Olga Smith; Alpha Kappa, Inez Andren; Alpha Lambda, Eleanor Spruill (Jobes); Alpha Mu, Helen Kresie (Curry); Alpha Nu, Ruth Williams (Anderson); Alpha Xi, Miriam Clapham (Patrick); Alpha Omicron, Orvetta Wissler (Barnes); Alpha Pi, Josephine Stiers (Phillips); Alpha Rho, Norma Vergason (Beach); Alpha Sigma, Alice Carroll (Hayter); Alpha Tau, Elvira Thorsteinson (Leam); Boston Alumnæ, Louise Gale (Haines); Indianapolis Alumnæ, Julia Miller (Emhardt); Pittsburgh Alumnæ, Elizabeth Wilson (Wade); Seattle Alumnæ, Bernice Kirkham (Terry); Sigma Alumnæ, Margret Bostic (Alcott); Wellsburg Alumnæ, Iva Brashear; San Francisco Alumnæ, Adeline Scandrett; Los Angeles Alumnæ, Helen Harrison; Philadelphia Alumnæ, Nora Thompson; Topeka Alumnæ, Marion McArthur (Wyman); Denver Alumnæ, Edna Jones.

It was not redundant for an earlier account to say that "every session was

marked with a recognition of the present and future needs of the organization in its increased size, with a practical application of progressive plans compatible with Zeta Tau Alpha's purposes of service and development." Surely "increased size" was no overstatement, for since the previous (1919) convention a record-breaking number of seventeen chapters had been added—those from Alpha Beta to Alpha Tau, inclusive.

One could hardly question the assumption that the fast-growing organization might be bursting its seams, and that its growth had not been un-Topsylike. That would seem logical if not inevitable with the large number of additional new chapters. But actually the situation was well understood by those at the helm, and seam trouble was forestalled by recognition of the need of a change in the executive management, which convention voted.

That action faced up to the new, and what appeared to them vast, Zeta Tau Alpha. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer were combined, with the new Secretary-Treasurer in charge of the Central Office which had been functioning since the 1920 Grand Chapter meeting. Dropped was any idea of the Secretary acting also as the President's private secretary, and the location of the office had no mandatory relation to the President's place of residence.

Since the work of the two offices dovetailed and ideally the qualifications for either office were the same (the incumbent must have writing and editing ability and experience), the offices of Editor and Historian were also combined. No one more than the Editor needs to know the background of the organization whose mouthpiece she directs and too, the fraternity was eager for the publication of a history.

It was also evident that the excellent condition of the treasury made it no longer necessary or practical to ask or expect the contribution of full-time services from officers (especially those requiring professional training), whose volume of work, and time expenditure clearly justified monetary consideration. Thus the time had come for an orderly working arrangement. The early days were definitely over. In 1919 the country was barely out of the war period. By 1923 a new era was well under way. The fraternity's affairs had assumed the proportions of full-scale operations. Further, it was realized that this probably was just the beginning. That was very true, for the size of Zeta Tau Alpha in 1923 was not much more than a faint shadow of the organization twenty-five years later, when it had progressed from silver to gold in its anniversaries.

Under the plan adopted, the personnel of Grand Chapter became: President, Vice-President, Panhellenic Delegate (unremunerated); Secretary-Treasurer, in charge of General Office, Editor-Historian, Inspector, remunerated officers.

Safeguarding and looking to the future of the magazine, the Themis Life Subscription Plan, as presented by the Editor, was adopted. Under this plan a life subscription was included in each initiation fee, the latter being scaled



accordingly to take care of it. Under the terms of the plan presented, this automatically created the important Themis Endowment Fund which became a financial bulwark in the years ahead.

The charter fee was made a flat sum of \$150, which covered all expenses previously assessed separately. Annual dues were to be paid by November 1. It was decided that a petitioning group should have at least ten undergraduate members. The clause concerning alternate delegates to convention was clarified



Evelyn Callicutt



Marion Jellicorse de Roos

by making the requirement decisive. Chapters were to send their alumnæ newsletters twice a year. A recognition pin was adopted, as was a uniform service for Founders' Day which was again recorded in the not-done category. Fetting was again retained as the official jeweler.

Miriam Keast (Brown), Sigma, was appointed a committee of one to collect songs and arrange for another edition of the songbook. Purchase of directories, by a stipulated percentage of each chapter, was made mandatory. The appointment of standing committees on chapter houses and scholarship was ratified, and a projected statistical rating system to be worked out by the Grand President was accepted. Based on that rating system, a further motion defined the penalty and expenses accruing to any chapter placed on probation, and stated the conditions that would bring that about.

After a discussion that was not unspirited, convention also ratified a recommendation disapproving of Zeta Tau Alpha alumnæ acting as house mothers until such time as a change seemed advisable. Dr. Hopkins was voted a gift of \$3,000 for some philanthropic use, the exact nature of which she was

to determine. The gift recognized in munificent fashion the years she served as an officer.

The first convention to have a paper chronicling its events, *The Chain* made its début at this time midst much interest and enthusiasm. Chapter displays also made their initial appearance. Announcement was made of a charter grant to the petitioning group at Northwestern University.

Officers elected were: President, Alpha Burkart (Wettach); Vice-President, Mary Poggi (Richley); Secretary-Treasurer, Ethel M. Charnock; Editor-Historian, Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout); Inspector, Marion Jellicorse (de Roos), N.P.C. Delegate, Dr. Hopkins. The Inspector, who consented to serve, was elected *in absentia*.

Only twenty-two years after 1898, Zeta Tau Alpha suffered the untimely loss of its first Founder. Sunday morning's memorial service, conducted by Dr. Hopkins, was dedicated to Maud Jones Horner, the first Grand President, who passed on in 1920, as well as to the other Zetas whose names were on the memorial roll. The loss of Zeta's gentle and beloved first President gave pause to the realization that accruing years would diminish the membership which, up to this time, had been relatively intact.

Recreation was influenced by the mountain setting. Said the earlier *Zeta History*, "picture over two hundred Zetas settled snugly in the Colorado Mountains, sufficient unto themselves, evolving a round of pleasures." At the Sing, "groups huddled together like family circles around a campfire. High adventure" was the hike to Bear Lake, while "other favorite hikes and rides sent groups to Long's Peak Inn, the Wigwam and Estes Park Village. The High Drive over the Continental Divide enticed a cortège of buses to its heights one afternoon, for fun with snowballs in July." An informal reception was held Sunday evening in the Assembly Hall.

Disguised behind black grease paint an agile clog dancer, who turned out to be the N.P.C. Delegate, was the surprise performer at the rollicking Stunt Night. Her N.P.C. report the next evening turned into "an enjoyable experience meeting" that was entertaining as well as instructive.

Model initiation, conducted by Grand Chapter Thursday night, honored Lillie Reed (McMasters), recommended by Chi, and Fay Wilson (Upp), a representative from the newly chartered but uninstalled group at Stillwater, Oklahoma. Then there was a "mystery initiate" whose identity was a matter of conjecture until the last moment, when guessing turned to amazement. The candidate was May Hopkins, President for twelve years. The story parallels the experiences of many early fraternity members.

When Epsilon's May Bollinger (Orgain) was a student at the University of Texas, she formed, through May Hopkins, the group that became Kappa chapter. The first chapter in Texas, the closest neighbor was Arkansas. The 1906 national treasury was in no position to send an officer, so when May Bollinger



installed the Austin chapter "she confided the secrets to May Hopkins," who then assisted with the other initiations, but who, herself, never had a formal initiation. In 1923 she thought it would be wonderful to have one. And she did.

A double rainbow spanned the horizon as the last words of the silver anniversary pageant were spoken. Written and directed by Miriam Keast (Brown), Sigma, this ambitious presentation depicted Zeta's history and growth. Just before sunset, episode followed episode as a large cast unfolded the years' achievements. Maurine Hiatt (Roberts), Psi, designed the costumes.

Then came the climax. Transporting quantities of properties both wieldy and unwieldy from the West Coast, Mary Poggi Richley's Californian banquet committee performed the near-impossible feat of transforming a rustic setting into a scene of loveliness fitting for a silver anniversary banquet.

Centering each long table was a miniature ocean devised from imported silver cloth and turquoise blue tarlatan. On the phosphorescent waves sailed nine stately, sea-worthy ships, with silver hulls and blue sails, each one proudly flying the flag of a Founder. Tossing in the wake of the Founder ships were thirty-nine smaller craft, identical in design, each flying the flag of a chapter. Tall silver candles at intervals were symbolical of lighthouses. Banks of small stones marked the shore line. There were silver and blue programs, while nut cups were in the fraternity colors and had white violets peering over the edge. There were also souvenir gifts from the official jewelers. Screens of greenery and tinsel decorations suspended from the lights further added to the illusion of the scene.

Three hundred guests were seated by chapters to make possible effective singing, with the two Founder guests, Grand Chapter, and the speakers at the head table. Silence fell when the big birthday cake was brought in. It was cut by Martha Ray (Denison), chairman of the banquet decorations. Adhering to the nautical theme, Adeline Scandrett, Upsilon, acted as pilot of the good ship Zeta Tau Alpha, and cleverly introduced the following speakers and their subjects: "The Launching," Frances Yancey Smith; "The Captain," Alpha Burkart (Wettach); "The Ship's Log," Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout); "Greek Sister Ships," Dr. Hopkins; "The Convoy," Louise Gale (Haines); "New Shores," Norà Thompson; "The Lighthouse," Alice Bland Coleman.

Kept secret thus far, the gift previously voted to Dr. Hopkins was announced. Then Zeta songs spoke the end of the banquet voyage.

The twenty-fifth milestone was passed, and at dawn came the exodus. Convention was over.

### **Grand Chapter Meeting (Atlantic City, New Jersey—1925)**

This was a meeting voluminous in the records produced, unlimited, if not all-inclusive, in the scope of subjects tackled, and as important as any Grand



Chapter meeting ever held. For it made decisions that encompassed the legislative field as well as attending to the smallest details of fraternity functioning. Its agenda was mighty, but to be borne in mind is the fact that this was the first Grand Chapter meeting after the all-important 1923 national convention, when a sweeping reorganization plan went into effect, and the fraternity was being geared to the needs of a rapidly expanding organization. And thinking out into the wide blue yonder so expansively were its leaders.

In the midst of transition from the old to the unbounded possibilities of the new, it may have seemed that boundaries of operation were not yet clearly established, or fully understood. Reflective perhaps of the fabulous prosperity of the era in which 1925 fell, some of the thinking as put forward in extra-legal propositions took in such a large expanse of territory that it somehow sailed beyond its jurisdictional bounds. For some of the actions were beyond the meeting's scope except for the power of recommendation.

The explanatory foreword of the Bulletin<sup>3</sup> of this important meeting of far-reaching consequences said:

This Bulletin, authorized by Grand Chapter, is sent . . . in the hope of bringing about a further knowledge of Zeta Tau Alpha as concerns national workings, national plans and news of the proceedings of the latest Grand Chapter meeting. Grand Chapter, the executive body, assembles from time to time at important sessions and the realization of the interest of every individual Zeta in these meetings prompts this publication. . . .

The last Grand Chapter meeting held January 9-13, 1925, at the Hotel Chalfonte, Atlantic City, New Jersey, was the first one held since June, 1923. . . . All six officers were present: President, Alpha Burkart (Wettach); Vice-President, Mary Poggi (Richley); Secretary-Treasurer, Ethel Charnock; Editor-Historian, Shirley Krieg (Strout); National Inspector, Marion Jellicorse (de Roos); and N.P.C. Delegate, Dr. Hopkins.

In brief form, omitting all discussion and all save the most necessary explanation, the aim of the Bulletin is to set forth the main issues under discussion, present motions of national interest that were passed and, by so doing, convey . . . knowledge of the scope of the executive field covered, the portions of convention legislation reported accomplished or not yet put into execution . . . in short, all business of such . . . a nature as to be of interest and concern to the fraternity. Unfinished business, some routine, and measures passed that are of a legislative nature are not here included, but the latter will be brought before the fraternity at such time as announcement is deemed expedient. . . .

Then it got down to business. Of the 1923 convention legislation left for Grand Chapter to put into execution, foremost was the motion, "That the plan for the reorganization of the executive management . . . as presented by the Grand President, be adopted. . . ." The "three distinct clauses," that extended no further than the three, were outlined in the authorized Bulletin as follows:

(a) The portion that includes the combination of the offices of Secretary-Treasurer, in charge of Central Office; a combination of the offices of Editor-Historian, "with financial remuneration" for both of these and the National Inspector. . . .

(b) That Zeta Tau Alpha be divided into provinces with a province president and secretary over each district.

(c) That the office of Grand President no longer carry with it the office of N.P.C. Delegate, and that a separate office be created on Grand Chapter for the N.P.C. Delegate.

The province system had not been instituted, but for the rest the fraternity had been functioning under the new organization plan since the summer of 1923. Already there was \$8,770.20 in the Themis Endowment Fund, resulting from the immediate installation of the Themis Life Subscription plan. Allotments of directories proved successful. The unusual rule against *alumnæ* acting as housemothers had been enforced except for a special grant to one chapter, which was to end in June. Not yet done was the statistical rating system to be worked out by the Grand President, so the rating of chapters and the basis for probation, both of which hinged on the former, were held in abeyance. The personnel of the new House Committee selected at this meeting was: Mildred Callahan (Stanley), Beta Alpha, chairman; Inez Gardinier, Psi; Helen MacGregor, Upsilon; Elizabeth Sloan (Grotefend), Chi, and Ruth Searles (McMurray), Zeta. Further surveys concerned initiation and ritual.

In accordance with convention's gift plan, \$3,000 had been collected and sent to Dr. Hopkins on June 4, 1924. She was to study the possibility of a child's guidance clinic "at once and determine the exact location in Texas." The country was divided into provinces, the presidents appointed, and a general statement of duties formulated. The provinces were to select their own secretaries. A fraternity manual, a bulletin on the Scholarship Loan Fund and a bulletin covering the proceedings of the meeting were authorized. Pending receipt of the statistical rating system, a basis for probation was decided upon and three chapters were placed on probation.

The President reported the pledging of the fraternity for \$5,000 worth of common stock in the Panhellenic House (later known as Beekman Tower Hotel), thus making Zeta Tau Alpha a participating organization. The additional allotment of \$600 was taken up by the New York *Alumnæ*. The national organization assumed full responsibility for the stock, with the option of selling it to the members or of retaining it as a permanent investment.

Decided upon at Atlantic City was a Legal Advisory Committee<sup>4</sup> to investigate and recommend investments. While the Themis Endowment Fund was to be invested by the Finance Committee, the latter was to be previously advised by the new Legal Advisory Committee. Then, since the 1923 combination of the offices of Secretary and Treasurer left but two members on the Finance Committee, the Inspector was selected to act as the needed third member. It became: President, Secretary-Treasurer and Inspector.

Frances Yancey Smith was to be asked to write a memorial service for the fraternity, while Abbie Graham, Lambda, was to be asked to write the much-needed Founders' Day service.

Recognition pins were to be awarded to all those who, at their own expense, attended and assisted at installations. Alpha Phi was to be encouraged in its

ambitious plan to publish a cookbook. With the Finance Committee acting in the interim, final approval of scholarship loans was hereafter to be given at the yearly Grand Chapter meetings. Designs submitted for guards to be affixed to the badges worn by Grand Chapter officers were not acceptable, so new designs were requested. In a centralizing move, all banners and supplies were hereafter to be ordered through Central Office.

Considered and voted on was a questionnaire from the N.P.C. chairman of the committee on eligibility and nationalization of groups.

Of momentous importance, and later questioning, was the constitutionality of three decisions that fell in the legislative category, which exceeded the powers invested in Grand Chapter, the executive body. They were, first, the voting of salaries<sup>5</sup> to the President, Vice-President, and N.P.C. Delegate; second,<sup>6</sup> the motion that hereafter chapters not be required to send an alternate delegate to convention but that instead, each district pool its funds to send the province president as a second representative; third,<sup>7</sup> that future selection of grand officers be made by a board of directors composed of the province presidents and members of Grand Chapter, this to become effective at the next Grand Chapter meeting, and previous to the next convention.

A new location for Central Office (then in Wellsburg, West Virginia) was discussed. A decision was reached concerning inclusion of alumnae chapters in the *History* being planned, and there was affirmative action on the payment of the personal expenses of traveling officers (that was later rescinded), with discussion on extension, office expenses and many other miscellaneous matters.

While the heavy agenda indicated the energy and envisioned projects of world-movers at work, when there was time-out for breathers and walks and meals (as there was) Atlantic City's famous boardwalk furnished its own kind of diversion that was amply intriguing to the January visitors. There was even time for the hotel to take a picture which later appeared in print. In fact, the six took it all in unhurried stride.

### Tenth National Convention

While the constitution had figured prominently in a predominate number of previous conventions, the "land of the sky" meeting was thereafter invariably referred to for some time to come as *the* constitutional convention. And so it was, for that document was pin-pointed in importance.

Approximately 325 Zetas registered in another mountain setting of great natural beauty for the tenth national convention, held June 26-July 2, 1926, at Blue Ridge,<sup>8</sup> North Carolina. Each convention had shown a steadily increasing attendance, and this one had the longest roster.<sup>9</sup>

Present at the four days' Grand Chapter meeting preceding convention were: Alpha Burkart (Wettach), President; Mary Poggi (Richley), Vice-President; Ethel Charnock, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Editor-



Historian; and Evelyn Callicutt,<sup>10</sup> National Inspector. Dr. Hopkins was absent.

When the conclave was formally opened Saturday night, June 26, "the poise and charm" of Catharine Bingler (Beverley), chairman of the hostess chapters,<sup>11</sup> "gave it the most delightful of openings." North Carolina's welcome,<sup>12</sup> extended by Olivia Brame (Bullock), was followed by the introduction of the President and her opening address. The other grand officers responded to introductions with brief speeches.

Frances Yancey Smith, Della Lewis (Hundley) and Alice Grey Welsh were



Bruce Houston Davis



Shirley Kreasan Krieg Strout

the honored Founders present. The province classification appeared for the first time when province presidents made their convention début. They were: Alice Welsh, Alpha province; Iva Brashear, Beta province; Nora Thompson, Gamma province; Bruce Houston (Davis), Delta province; Grace Mattern, Epsilon province; Marian Johnson (Castle), Theta province; Bertha Cruse (Gardner), Zeta province; Adelaide Hazeltine (Jones), Eta province; Adeline Scandrett, Lambda province, and Lucile Douglas (Clark), Mu province. After committee appointments<sup>13</sup> were announced, everyone went to Robert E. Lee Hall for the informal reception given by the hostess chapters.

In explaining the urgency of this constitution-accented meeting, it was emphasized that "probably every organization has a 'constitutional convention,' for all must reach the time, if progress has been the rule, when a constitution and by-laws drafted in earlier days for a much smaller organization is no longer adequate." That was the case. Since the 1919 convention labored over what they hoped was a perfected document of government, twenty-eight chapters

had been added. The whole picture was changed. Now a complete rewriting was generally deemed necessary and desirable.

On Monday morning the assemblage<sup>14</sup> plunged into the business of acquiring that new constitution. At that time a departure from the usual order was made by bringing before the convention a plan for the construction and adoption of a new constitution; whereas, heretofore, only amendments or additions had been presented for adoption. Unusual, the exact manner in which this was adopted is too detailed for recording here, but it is found in the minutes of this convention.<sup>15</sup> A new Constitution Committee appointed<sup>16</sup> at this session represented the various provinces and supplanted the one previously announced. It began work immediately and sections of the new document in the process of formulation were submitted to convention from time to time for discussion and ratification.

Expectedly, it incorporated many changes and additions. A completed document by the time of adjournment was the ambitious hope of those so deeply interested. However, due to a "delay the last day of convention, the entire compilation which otherwise would have been finished was not completed by the time of adjournment, but an adequate solution was found in the continuing, with power to act, of the voting body of the convention."<sup>17</sup> That was unusual and unprecedented, too, but it solved a problem.

High lights of the new constitution included a return to a group of five grand officers—President, Vice-President (still in charge of *alumnæ* work and acting as *alumnæ* chairman), Secretary-Treasurer (still in charge of Central Office), Editor-Historian, and the National Inspector, the last three being remunerated. Clarified as to location, the business management of *Themis* returned to the Treasurer and Central Office.<sup>18</sup> The Grand President again became the official delegate to the National Panhellenic Conference (then called Congress). Greatly changed was the convention schedule itself. Triennial since 1915, conventions became biennial. Three years seemed too long between sessions.

Reversing earlier declarations, for the first time in Zeta's history provision was made for honorary initiates. *The Link* and *The Chain* were adopted as official publications and provision was made for them. A new type of Finance Committee of non-Grand Chapter personnel was adopted, while a House Advisory Committee was added. *Alumnæ* charters were voted.

Recommendations that passed convention designated that the price of the *History* be included in the pledge fee. Frances Yancey Smith's moving memorial service was adopted. Destined to give the fraternity a lovelier new coat-of-arms was convention's ratification of Grand Chapter's recommendation to correct the present coat-of-arms according to the rules of heraldry, such correction in design to be made by the Grand Historian and submitted to Grand Chapter for approval. Historical research had uncovered heraldic inaccuracies in the



coat-of-arms in use, which made it impossible of interpretation according to the rules of heraldry.

The two-year ban on Zeta Tau Alphas acting as housemothers was rescinded. Defeated at all previous conventions when considered, Zeta's first approach to a House Fund came when it was voted to use one-third of the Themis Endowment Fund as the basis for a House Building Fund, the money thus loaned from the parent Themis Endowment Fund to be administered by the Endowment Trustees and the House Advisory Committee.

Dr. Hopkins was made a special representative to any National Panhellenic Conference held between the 1926 and 1928 conventions.

The awarding of honor rings was placed on a standardized basis, following a point system, and the ring was to be presented to, rather than purchased by, the honoree. Philanthropy entered the picture when Grand Chapter was authorized to appoint a committee to investigate and present to the 1928 convention some definite plan for a permanent philanthropy.<sup>19</sup> Each chapter was to subscribe to *Banta's Greek Exchange* and Fetting was retained as the official jeweler.

Resolving the controversial salary action of the 1925 Grand Chapter meeting, honoraria<sup>20</sup> of various sums were given the President, Vice-President, and N.P.C. Delegate. It was also decided to support the Panhellenic House in New York.

A fraternity manual was authorized. A uniform pledge study under the supervision of Grand Chapter, followed by examinations, was to be given before initiation. The new manual was to carry the outline of this study. Concerning the disposition of the pin of a deceased member, convention preferred "that she continue to wear it." Considered a little too large and heavy, the pledge pin was to be made smaller. Suggestions from the Ritual Committee included restatement of the degree initiation plan which, passed at the last convention, had not been put into effect, and which, it reported, was not generally favored by the chapters. Grand officers were to assume their duties immediately after election at convention. In short, aside from the achievement of a new constitution and by-laws, the perpetual activity of those Carolina days produced an array of independent legislation. Many things in Zeta Tau Alpha dated from this convention.

When Mary Frayser (McGehee), Alpha, and her daughter, Elizabeth McGehee, Delta (then a pledge), came to Blue Ridge, they became the first Zeta mother-daughter combination ever to attend a convention.

Chapter displays again appeared and the Colorado-launched *Chain* was a mimeographed daily this time. Model initiation was omitted because the two honorees invited could not be present, and because qualifications specified the initiation of those not otherwise eligible for membership.

Two convention awards were announced by Grand Chapter: a scholarship





Catharine Binger Beverley



Charlotte MacGregor Boggs

cup to be presented to the chapter having the highest scholastic average in the fraternity; and a cup for the chapter winning the singing contest.

When the last day's program was delayed it was necessary, for the first time, to hold the final business session at night, following the banquet. Thus, at that last session, a voting body in evening gowns elected as officers: Catharine Binger (Beverley), President; Bruce Houston (Davis), Vice-President; Ethel Charnock, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Editor-Historian, and Charlotte Favor MacGregor (Boggs), Inspector.

Looking across the border, Bigwin Inn, Lake of Bays, Ontario, Canada, was selected as the site for the next convention.

White clad figures filed silently to the platform to lay sprigs of rhododendron on the memorial altar for fifty-four Zetas, in whose memory convention paused to pay homage at Sunday morning's memorial service. Frances Yancey Smith, who wrote the service, was assisted by Mildred Spragg (Boyd), Theta-Alpha Zeta, and the Wellsburg Alumnæ. The first convention choir was led by Edythe Clark (McMahon), Omega, who prepared special music.

"A more thoroughly organized alumnæ group" was discussed for two hours Monday night with Mary Poggi (Richley) and Alpha Burkart (Wettach) in charge. Tuesday afternoon was free for trips to Mt. Mitchell, Brown's Field and Hilltop, but Stunt Night<sup>21</sup> "surpassed all others in professional quality." The Pittsburgh Alumnæ, with Louise Wright presiding, were in charge of Wednesday's open night. Mr. Ben McMurray, a Zeta husband and well-known architect, spoke on the construction of fraternity houses. Dr. Chloe Owings, sociologist, director of the American Social Hygiene Association of New York

City, was the other speaker. There was a business session Thursday night.

Ingenuity and unstinted energy again accomplished the transformation of a rustic type room into a scene of beauty.<sup>22</sup> This time a "charming old-fashioned garden" bordered "a tall, lighted fountain" that was actually in operation. Around it were grouped tables (arranged as from a hub) with places laid for nearly 250 banqueters. "Vines draped with silvery Spanish moss twined the pillars of the room, and, combined with oak leaves, extended from pillar to pillar." A "quaint corsage of blue flowers and silver ribbon" marked each place. "A dainty lady, whose hoop-skirts concealed the menu and speaking program," made an effective place card. Favors were bar pins from Fetting and pin sets from Balfour. Burr, Patterson and Auld's souvenir memory books were registration surprises.

Pearl Reed, Chi, was the gracious toastmistress. The program was: "Birthday," Frances Yancey Smith; "Later Days," Rose Nelson (Hughes);<sup>23</sup> "Southern Stunt," Delta chapter; "Today," Alpha Burkart (Wettach).

The national scholarship cup, awarded for the first time, went to the Randolph-Macon chapter. Alpha Tau took home the cup for the best original song. Zeta won the national song cup and Beta Gamma the best-exhibit award. There was a new Zeta tennis champion, too—Louise Dechert, Alpha Lambda.

Then, in a few hours the tenth convention was officially over.

### **Grand Chapter Meeting (Richmond, Virginia—1926)**

The new Grand Chapter inherited a volume of work and thought-provoking situations from convention that demanded, and received, early and close attention. There was "a great deal of important legislation to carry out." Losing no time in getting under way, and since circumstances called for that action, the new President called a special meeting for August 31-September 5, 1926, in Richmond, Virginia. Working through those hot days, the officers in session at the Jefferson Hotel were: Catharine Bingler (Beverley), President; Bruce Houston (Davis), Vice-President; Ethel M. Charnock, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Editor-Historian, and Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), Inspector.

The Blue Ridge convention was only about six weeks away, but in that time the unfinished constitution had not only been completed but had been adopted by an affirmative vote of seventy-six out of ninety-four. In consonance with this, the first action of the new executive group was the "formal proclamation . . . that this meeting and all other fraternity business and procedure are now and will hereafter be under the government of the new constitution."

Complying with a convention motion, they checked the convention minutes, and, in an executive decision then possible, they located Central Office in Richmond, "in the home state of Virginia." Induced by summer developments

was the authorized "study of the legal aspects surrounding every phase of the fraternity in order that nothing be overlooked in the efficient administration of its affairs. This latter included the legal protection of the name, Zeta Tau Alpha, in all states."

From several drawings presented by the Historian to be used as a basis for the final design of the new coat-of-arms, one was selected. Publication of the national *History* as soon as possible was authorized. Central Office's plan for vocational placement was approved. Discussion of forms and blanks included working out a recommendation blank and one for the use of the National Inspector. Again "a basis for chapter probation" came up. The President was empowered to make a thorough investigation.

Undaunted, they appointed a committee<sup>24</sup> to write and submit a Founders' Day service, so desired for so long, with the happy sequel that Anne Burkart, Alpha Beta, sent it in time for use on Founders' Day of that year—less than a month later.

Customs planned that became traditions with the years included the Grand President's yearly Founders' Day Proclamation. When a member died, the chapter members were to wear crêpe under their pins for three days. "Both college and alumnæ chapters" were to send greetings to new chapters.

Making the record clear by committing itself to "an extension policy of conservatism," Grand Chapter also took cognizance of the prohibition era when standards of conduct were surveyed. Realizing that the "highest standard was expected of fraternity women," they went on record "as discountenancing smoking and drinking in our chapter houses."

Realizing the importance of song, it was urged that emphasis be placed on singing Zeta songs. They decided against reprinting the songbook and instead, ambitiously recommended the publication of a new book containing original words and music before next convention. And that book became a reality. To encourage the writing of a national song, which was also recommended, a contest and cash prize of twenty-five dollars were decided upon. Miriam Keast (Brown) was reappointed Chairman of the Songbook, and Anne Burkart was reappointed Custodian of Greek Names.<sup>25</sup> A point system for awarding honor rings was decided upon. The Secretary-Treasurer was to secure new designs for guards for the badges of Grand Chapter members.

Foreshadowing later years' advisory boards, "the appointment of a chapter adviser was recommended to each active chapter. The duties of province presidents were further outlined, and, in answer to numerous queries, a statement regarding voting was made" for *Link* publication and chapter distribution. Important appointments<sup>26</sup> were made.

Everyone was delighted that the Founders met in Richmond on Friday morning for a reunion. They were all there except Alice Coleman and Ethel Coleman (Van Name). Clair Woodruff (Bugg), Alpha, Grand Secretary from



1908-1919, and Mary Power Farthing, an 1899 Alpha chapter initiate, came, too. A high light of the delightful noon luncheon given at the University Club by the Richmond Alumnae was the testimonial presented to the new President by Frances Yancey Smith. Signed by all those present, it expressed deep appreciation of Mrs. Beverley, and pledged her the utmost loyalty and support.

Luncheon with Lorena Boyd Mason, former Grand Historian, and with members of Delta chapter completed the social program of a busy conference.

### Grand Chapter Meeting (Richmond, Virginia—1927)

The move to Richmond accomplished, Central Office was the headquarters for the special Grand Chapter meeting held January 17-26, 1927—"the first one ever held at Zeta Tau Alpha headquarters since the establishment of a Central Office in 1920." Present were Catharine Binger (Beverley), President; Bruce Houston (Davis), Vice-President; Ethel Charnock, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Editor-Historian, and Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), Inspector. The meeting was called to deal with some post-convention developments. After these were settled, routine and regular business provided a busy schedule.

Not only were delays conspicuously absent in this period, but the relative rapidity with which projects of size were completed by this group grows increasingly vivid in retrospect. No sooner was a thing decided upon than it was done, it seemed. And done well.

A striking example of the completion of a time-consuming, painstaking assignment was the beautiful new coat-of-arms presented in color in the January, 1927, *Themis*. Less than five months after the summer convention, the new arms was a reality. The drawing to be used as the basis for the final design having been selected from several submitted by the Historian at the September meeting, the new coat-of-arms was not only completed and approved before the January meeting but it was also in published form. The problem of what chapters should do with the long-used but heraldically inaccurate former coat-of-arms was solved by concluding that its best disposition was "placement in the local archives."

Recognizing the long-felt need for an idealistic expression of this nature, the Editor-Historian was authorized to write a Creed for the fraternity. Then she and the Inspector were commissioned to compile the traditions and policies. The torch guard thereafter affixed to the badges of Grand Chapter members came into being at this time, when that design was chosen.

Hereafter, local groups were to have an unpublicized, preliminary informal visit by some authorized person (a non-Grand Chapter member) before being allowed to submit a formal petition. Too, "even more serious consideration" was to be given "to the wishes of the nearby chapters." Putting the plan into

immediate operation, they granted only informal visits to the groups on the current petitioning list. However, charters were granted to groups at Sophie Newcomb College, Franklin College, Centenary College and the University of Nebraska. Granted inspections by the pre-1926 convention Grand Chapter meeting, all four had already been "inspected under the new one."

The new constitution having been sent out soon after convention, the calling in of all copies of the former one was authorized. Important was correspondence connected with the stock held in the New York Panhellenic House, its proper registration in the name of the fraternity, and the appointment of a Zeta Tau Alpha representative on the Board of Directors. Mildred Pickering (Shipp), Tau, was the appointee. Dr. Hopkins had found it impossible to accept convention's appointment as special N.P.C. Delegate, so, in line with the stipulation in the new constitution, the President,<sup>27</sup> became the official delegate.

One set of questions was to constitute the national examination, with the Inspector recording grades following the grading of the papers by the province presidents. Still under discussion, the President "was authorized to make an important survey" in "connection with probation." One chapter was continued in that status.

To stimulate high scholarship, they initiated the annual award of a specially designed medallion to the member achieving the highest average, the Scholarship Committee being in charge.

Important and also strategic were "changes made in committees,"<sup>28</sup> resulting in a number of additions and rearrangements." Representative distribution, including both of the 1926 constitutional schools of thought, minority as well as majority, was held in mind. Plans were also made for improved ritualistic equipment, and a discipline case was settled.

A tea given by Alpha province's president, Elizabeth Moon, honored the visiting officers; then there was dinner one evening with a delegation of five visiting Zetas. There was luncheon with the Richmond Alumnae chapter at their regular monthly luncheon. Grand Chapter also entertained at luncheon Mrs. Roy Barnhill, Alpha Omicron Pi's representative on the New York Panhellenic House board of governors, and her hostess.

### The Eleventh National Convention

The lake-strewn, forest-clad highlands of Ontario drew 264 Zetas to Bigwin Inn, Lake of Bays, Ontario, Canada, for the first convention ever held outside the United States. The dates were July 2-5, 1928. Through northern country of primeval beauty and forest quietude, by rail both modern and antique, the final lap was by boat to the picturesque woodland setting where one of Canada's ultrasmart summer hotels awaited. The first biennial convention<sup>29</sup> since 1912, it was also held in Zeta's thirtieth birthday year.

Daisy Bashford (Hilton), Rho, president of the hostess province,<sup>30</sup> Gamma,

presided at the opening session. Representing "the far distant states," Adeline Scandrett, Lambda province president, responded to the welcome to Canada extended by Zeta's Editor-Historian, of Toronto. Then after the Grand President had responded to her introduction, Delta chapter's Virginia Baldwin presented Catharine Beverley with a silver-banded gavel bearing the words "Zeta Tau Alpha from Delta chapter"—hers to use while in office and to be bequeathed to succeeding Presidents. Delta was proud of its "member who holds the highest position in the fraternity."

Other grand officers<sup>31</sup> introduced were: Bruce Houston (Davis), Vice-President; Ethel M. Charnock, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Editor-Historian; Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), National Inspector. Convention was fortunate in having a Founder,<sup>32</sup> Frances Yancey Smith, present. The province presidents were introduced,<sup>33</sup> the six new chapters (Beta Eta, Beta Theta, Beta Iota, Beta Kappa, Beta Lambda and Beta Mu), added since 1926, were welcomed and their delegates introduced. Then business got underway.<sup>34</sup> And there was so much of it in those four days that only high lights can be set down here.

Selection of a national philanthropic project and its site evoked spirited discussion. Convention decided on Currin Valley, Smyth County, Virginia, in the mountains of the mother state of the fraternity. The mountain work honored the Founders, to whom it was dedicated, and the state of Zeta's birth.

Since philanthropy was to be the particular project of the *alumnæ*, its financing was necessarily closely tied in with their contributions. For the past two years *alumnæ* charter fees had been applied to the Philanthropic Fund and each province had been asked to raise an allotted sum. At this time further funds were provided by the adoption of *alumnæ* dues and of life memberships available for \$25.

For many years there had been interest in the establishment of an appropriate memorial at Longwood College in memory of Zeta's first Grand President. After considering various possibilities, the Maud Jones Horner Scholarship Gift was established. For six years, or until convention should decide otherwise, \$100 from the Scholarship Loan Fund was to be given to a student at Farmville—not to be repaid unless the recipient so desired.

*Alumnæ* associations were reclassified and placed in the category of non-chartered units. Abolished was the previous *Themis* subscription requirement for chartered groups, while the Grand President's signature on the *alumnæ* charter was to be added to that of the Vice-President, formerly the sole signer. *Alumnæ* supervision<sup>35</sup> of college chapters not maintaining the fraternity's standards was authorized.

The 1926-authorized Finance Committee, reporting for the first time, underscored pertinent scholarship loan decisions, namely "to call in all loans when due and make every effort to collect those past due; to discountenance any



intimation that this loan fund could be obtained for any purpose not strictly educational, or on any basis other than a strictly business one." The committee members were Alice Welsh, A. Louise Gale (Haines) and Ethel Cruse (Mouton).

The New York Panhellenic House stock was again on the agenda. Upon recommendation of the Finance Committee, chapters were given from one to ten years in which to dispose of their stock, arrangements being made through Central Office to accept notes without interest. Following acceptance of the budget, "assessments thereafter were to be apportioned by chapters, rather than by provinces." The interest on loans from the Scholarship Fund was reduced to three per cent.

It was decided to have a registration fee at ensuing conventions. Pro-rating the expenses of the alternate delegates was favored, so "expenses of the alternate delegates of college chapters [were to] be pooled, and divided by the number of college chapters. Each college chapter shall pay its equal share of the expenses."

The problem of time-consuming chapter reports that grew as the chapter roll lengthened was solved by stipulating future incorporation of the official delegate's report into that of the respective province presidents.

Adopted recommendations of the Themis Endowment Trustees included: Extension of the fund to include buying as well as building; determination of the degree of responsibility falling to them and to the House Advisory Committee,<sup>36</sup> respectively; the rate of interest to be charged, as well as the security required, the conditions of the loan, and other details of handling and investing. The Trustees were authorized to employ a trust company as agent.

The Hopkins Fund was constitutionally added to the fraternity's funds, and its status was defined. The number of standing committees was raised by the addition of the National Philanthropic Committee, the National Scholarship Committee, and the Themis Endowment Trustees. An adopted section on suspension replaced the former rules of expulsion.

To make possible the initiation of women other than those who were faculty members, the recently acquired requirements for honorary membership were greatly liberalized. Defining the status of those invited to become Grand Chapter initiates, if unable to attend convention they were hereafter eligible for initiation by the chapter recommending them.

Again a conservative expansion policy was voiced and investigation of the extension field in the Far-West states of Theta-Iota province was recommended. Colonization was approved as the best procedure in localities where old, established chapters of other national groups existed.

Suggestions for the promotion of better scholarship were to be compiled by the National Scholarship Committee, "this table to be used as a whole or

in part, according to the needs or situation of the college wherein the chapter is located." The annual award of a scholarship medallion to the undergraduate having the highest average in the fraternity was also authorized.

Solely as a concession to prevalent campus custom, a reproduction of the badge was permitted in annual publications or year books.

*The Creed*, written by Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), was officially adopted as the Creed of the fraternity.

A new secret motto and a ceremony for the installation of grand officers, written by Catharine Binger (Beverley) and Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), were also adopted, as were national customs of mourning. The smaller pledge pin previously desired was adopted. Again the fraternity went on record as discountenancing any form of rough or mock initiation. Terminating many years of association with the Fetting firm in Baltimore, convention selected the L. G. Balfour Company as sole official jeweler for the ensuing two years.

Zeta's delegate to the 1930 National Panhellenic Conference was given full power to act for the fraternity, and Grand Chapter was empowered to redivide the country into provinces. Following action of the 1926 Grand Chapter meeting in Richmond and the 1928 National Panhellenic Conference, the convention went on record as "discountenancing smoking in 'fraternity or sorority houses'" and approved sending engraved cards, rather than gifts, to inspecting officers of other fraternities. If a rushee had attended a college where there was a Zeta chapter, it was stipulated that the chapter considering her should first consult the other chapter before pledging.

Publications since the last convention included Volume I of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*, by Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), which made its initial appearance at the Canadian convention,<sup>37</sup> and the first all-original songbook edited by Miriam Keast (Brown). Issuance of a parliamentary pamphlet prepared by the Washington, D.C. Alumnae chapter was authorized, as was a manual of pledge training.<sup>38</sup>

Five years old, *The Chain* made its début as a printed newspaper, and it appeared daily despite uncertain boat and Toonerville-trolley trips to and from the printer on the distant mainland. Customs formalities notwithstanding, exhibits were on view again. Province displays were found for the first time.

Friday afternoon's session elected new officers: Bertha Cruse (Gardner), Grand President; Bruce Houston (Davis), Vice-President; Bernice Kirkham (Terry), Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Editor-Historian; Mildred Spragg (Boyd), National Inspector. In a close vote, the West Baden Springs Hotel, West Baden, Indiana, was chosen for the 1930 convention.

Wednesday morning was "cool and lovely, with a mantle of brilliant sunshine covering the sparkling little island, filtering through the white birch trees and casting bright patterns on the paths leading from one building to another."

# *The CREED* *of* *Zeta Tau Alpha*

*Written by*

SHIRLEY KREASAN KRIEG

**T**O realize that within our grasp, in Zeta Tau Alpha, lies the opportunity to learn those things which will ever enrich and ennoble our lives; to be true to ourselves, to those within and without our circle; to think in terms of all mankind and our service in the world; to be steadfast, strong, and clean of heart and mind, remembering that since the thought is father to the deed, only that which we would have manifested in our experience should be entertained in thought; to find satisfaction in being, rather than seeming, thus strengthening in us the higher qualities of the spirit; to prepare for service and learn the nobility of serving, thereby earning the right to be served; to seek understanding that we might gain true wisdom; to look for the good in everyone; to see beauty, with its enriching influence; to be humble in success, and without bitterness in defeat; to have the welfare and harmony of the fraternity at heart, striving ever to make our lives a symphony of high ideals, devotion to the Right, the Good and the True, without a discordant note; remembering always that the foundation precept of Zeta Tau Alpha was Love, "the greatest of all things."

(Adopted by The 1928 Convention)

Reproduction of the page that introduced The Creed in Volume II of the first  
*History of Zeta Tau Alpha.*



As Frances Yancey Smith conducted the seven o'clock memorial service, a high bank of fragrant bloom grew as white-clad chapter representatives placed white peonies on the memorial altar. Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs) assisted Miss Smith. A choir sang softly.

Grand Chapter initiates were Marian Thayer (MacMillan),<sup>39</sup> of Oxford, Ohio, and Cordelia Spangler Cox, of Richmond, Virginia, who were initiated in model services conducted Wednesday night by Grand Chapter, assisted by Elizabeth



Mildred Spragg Boyd



Bertha Cruse Gardner



Bernice Kirkham Terry

Stone, president of Beta province, and Helen Clair, president of Mu province. The ritual service followed. All services were held in the Pavilion.

Monday night's beautifully conducted alumnæ service, open only to alumnæ, was under the direction of the Boston and Philadelphia Alumnæ.

In the baronial-like setting of Bigwin Inn's spacious rotunda, evening gowns made their first appearance at the opening formal reception held Monday night, July 2, from nine-thirty to eleven o'clock. The cool of the north woods made the warmth of the blazing logs in the great fireplaces most welcome as the Zetas listened to an "orchestra that had already delighted them," and got acquainted with each other. Receiving with Grand Chapter that night were Miss Smith and Mrs. Hilton. Refreshments were served.

Cruises on the big steamer, tennis, golf, and excursions through the woodland trails encircling and intersecting the islands took up other leisure moments, of which, actually, there were few.

In the north woods, Stunt Night found its first "stage of professional type and equipment, and an excellent orchestra whose leader worked with the student chairman in making the presentation as professional in tone as possible." It was, and the Pavilion was packed with Zetas and hotel guests eager "to view the amateur theatricals." Delta province had the winning stunt.

Lovely evening gowns, "vivid, alluring splashes of color and glittering sequins contrasted with striking black evening gowns" as the procession, formed by provinces and chapters, started down the long, shadowed arcade which led to the Moorish Dining Hall, where the final banquet was held as "twilight deepened over the still waters."

Tall golden tapers and mixed flowers made the tables lovely. At the speakers' table was a basket of roses sent by Alpha Phi, in convention the preceding week. Favors of sheer, hand-painted handkerchiefs pleased the banqueters. The programs were "miniature reproductions of the newly published *History of Zeta Tau Alpha*."

The Syracuse Zetas in charge of the banquet chose as their program theme, "*The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*—not only because this was Zeta's thirtieth birthday year, but more especially because 1928 marked the appearance of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*, an event of first rank since the last convention." Blue-covered, gold-lettered replicas of *The History* held the menu and banquet program. The speakers were chosen to represent each period in history.

The toastmistress, Bertha Cruse (Gardner), had become the new Grand President that afternoon, in fact, she was "the first officer of that rank ever to preside over a convention banquet." Frances Yancey Smith spoke on the "Founding"; Bruce Houston (Davis), on the "Past"; Catharine Bingler (Beverley) on the "Present," and Shirley Krieg (Strout) on the "Future." Then Adeline Scandrett told the retiring Grand President of "the fraternity's gift of a ring" in appreciation of her two years of devoted service. Accompanied by a letter signed by the chapters and Grand Chapter, Mrs. Gardner told the retiring Secretary-Treasurer of the gift she was to receive.

Virginia Ronsaville, Beta Alpha, was awarded the first scholarship medallion to be presented. Psi had the best chapter exhibit. Delta province won the province exhibit.

Then, before the banquet was officially concluded, a new pattern was introduced, when the newly adopted ceremony for the installation of officers was used for the induction of the new Grand Chapter. A time interval for preparation was required between the end of the banquet program and the induction ceremonies.

Remembered that night was the rising moon that etched an eerie night-light sketch, and the soft swish of the black-satin waters lapping against the high foundation walls of the Moorish Dining Hall rising from the water's edge. Convention was over and in the morning Bigwin Inn had its last glimpse of the Zetas from below the border.

From the number of courses served in the dining-room (at which the Zetas marvelled) and the picturesque parade of the waiters, to the yachts at anchor and the Canadian lads who were intrigued with southern accents, this far-north convention had unplanned aspects that added color and liveliness. It



was distinctive and unforgettable—a treasured experience to those fortunate enough to have made the trip in the year 1928.

### Supplementary Notes

1. This referred to expenses and dues.
2. Descriptive was the President's message in the next issue of *Themis*:  
 "On the calendar that marks the history of Zeta Tau Alpha, the days from June 30 to July 7 should bear silver stars, silver because they mark the twenty-fifth year of our existence, and stars for symbols of the height of our ambitions. Those days with their endless business sessions, special meetings, conferences, politics, hikes, serenades, stunts and many unwritten escapades, together with the snow peaks of the Rockies and the blue of the Colorado skies, are now memories. But from those days so crowded with history-making events have come renewed spirit to carry on the beginnings of our Founders, and increased determination to reach far beyond their expectations."
3. The committee on publication was Alpha Burkart (Wettach), Marion Jellicorse (de Roos) and Shirley Krieg (Strout).
4. The committee was not named at this meeting.
5. Immediately subject to question, a revote on the legality of the moves was taken soon after this meeting. As a result, except for the first of the decisions (the three new salaries were paid for one month only, before the revote), none was put into effect because of the questioned point of constitutionality. All three, though, as recommendations from this meeting, were duly included in the list of recommendations sent out for the 1926 convention. The last two were, with all the other recommendations, considered by the Constitution Committee, but they did not become a part of the new legislation passed at that convention.
6. This plan endeavored to find a way whereby the expenses of the new province presidents could be paid to convention without recourse to the national treasury.
7. The third decision, involving as it did a radical change in the manner of selecting officers, had its roots in an earnestly expressed desire to avoid the hazardous and upsetting conditions attendant upon a constant changing of officers. There was keen recognition of the fact "that it takes years for one to learn thoroughly the work of offices that carry increasingly wide, but necessarily exacting qualifications in the lines of professional training, as well as background and experience. When capable officers were found, sentiment favored retaining them, not having them subject to whimsical popular election. It was felt that a board of directors of this type, composed of those who had had actual contact and experience with national affairs, who were familiar with the qualifications and understood them, would be eminently suited to make the proper selection of grand officers."
8. Frances Yancey Smith, then a traveling YWCA national secretary, had a part in the founding of Blue Ridge.
9. The eleven chapters added since the 1923 convention were those from Alpha Upsilon through Beta Zeta.
10. When Marion Jellicorse (de Roos) resigned in the autumn of 1925, the former Inspector, Evelyn Callicutt, succeeded her.
11. The hostess chapters were Delta, Omicron, Alpha Lambda, Phi, and Richmond Alumnæ.
12. Greetings were received from Helen Crafford, Founder; Clair Woodruff (Bugg), Alpha; Virginia Rice, Alpha Gamma; Margaret Frank (Heath), Phi; Alpha Delta Theta; Delta Delta Delta; Alpha Xi Delta; Kappa Alpha Theta; Pi Beta Phi; Alpha Chi Omega; Sigma Kappa and Delta Gamma.



13. Some of the committees named at that time were: Credentials—Ethel Charnock, Theta, chairman; Shirley Kresan Krieg (Strout), Tau; Catherine Alexander (Johnson), Alpha Eta. Recommendations—Alta Cherrington, Alpha Pi, chairman; Evelyn Beeson (Parker), Alpha Upsilon; Evelyn Wilkinson (Spieth), Alpha Xi. Nominations—Mary Poggi (Richley), Xi, chairman; Violet Evans (Forbes), Alpha Zeta; Margaret Bostic (Alcott), Sigma; Bertha Cruse (Gardner), Beta; Catherine Wood (Stevens), Alpha Nu; Anna Smith (Johnson), Delta. Audit and Finance—Ethel Kingman, Rho, chairman; Grace Thorne (Kerns), Sigma; Alice Grey Welsh, Alpha. Music—Edythe Clark (McMahon), Omega; Grace McMillan, Alpha Omega; Ruth King (Bennett), Xi. Resolutions—Iva Brashear, Theta, chairman; Nora Thompson, Alpha Beta. Constitution—Alpha Burkart (Wettach), Chi, chairman; Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), Upsilon; Julia Miller (Emhardt), Alpha Delta; Bernice Kirkham (Terry), Mu-Psi; Marion Koonce, Alpha Lambda.
14. Official delegates of this convention were: Delta, Margaret Malone (Wray); Epsilon, Irene Ward; Zeta, Ruth Priestley (Lockhardt); Theta, Geneva Tarr (Elliot); Kappa, Margaret Atwood (Bywaters); Lambda, Laura Gillett (Ramsay); Mu, Evalyn Johnson; Nu, Lillian Lusk (Holmes); Xi, Catherine Colwell (Edgerton); Omicron, Fredericka Pilcher (Dickenson); Rho, Peris Ormsby; Sigma, Hope Vandever (Miller); Tau, Bernice Mattes (Koch); Upsilon, Norma Wallace (Mushet); Chi, Laura Moyer (Manifold); Phi, Olivia Brame (Bullock); Psi, Frances Remy (Dils); Omega, Edythe Clark (McMahon).

Alpha Alpha, Audrey Whipple (Bentzinger); Alpha Beta, Virginia Downward; Alpha Gamma, Helen Kagay (Prophet); Alpha Delta, Dorothy Kemp (Heller); Alpha Epsilon, Elizabeth Parks (Bunn); Alpha Zeta, Violet Evans (Forbes); Alpha Eta, Jeanette Bertram (Chapman); Alpha Theta, Lottie Elliott (Allman); Alpha Iota, Eleanor Smith; Alpha Kappa, Catherine Earl (Walker); Alpha Lambda, Louise Dechert (Steller); Alpha Mu, Mildred Boggs; Alpha Nu, Elizabeth Stone; Alpha Xi, Evelyn Wilkinson (Spieth); Alpha Omicron, Ruth Rittler (Gaston); Alpha Pi, Marion Cullen (Stewart); Alpha Rho, Pauline Kendall (Burrill); Alpha Sigma, Beryl Clewett (McDaniel); Alpha Tau, Ada Lidell (Zimmerman); Alpha Upsilon, Evelyn Beeson (Parker); Alpha Phi, Elizabeth Ling (Reesman); Alpha Chi, Laverne Lester (Pollard); Alpha Psi, Irma Green (LaFollette); Alpha Omega, Grace McMillan.

Beta Alpha, Marie Didden (Knighton); Beta Beta, Gertrude Klemm; Beta Gamma, Edith McCollum; Beta Delta, Josephine Buck (Monroe); Beta Epsilon, Marcella Rex (Minkel); Beta Zeta, Gladys Scotten (Woodhull).

Akron, Hester South; Alpha Kappa, Adelaide Johnson (Muhl); Athens, Myrtle Fox (Rotroff); Birmingham, Theolene Woodruff; Boston, Daisy Bashford (Hilton); Carlisle (Kentucky), Glennie B. Fischer; Chicago, Pauline Dillon (Gragg); Cincinnati, Charlotte Shorten; Columbus, Helen Day; Corsicana, Lena May Bonner; Dallas, Jean Laubenheim (Shepard); Decatur, Hazel Perry; Denver, Edna Jean Hershey; Evansston, Miriam Risser; Farmville, Frances Y. Smith; Fayetteville, Ellen Murphy; Ft. Worth, Cecilia Alford; Indianapolis, Julia Miller (Emhardt); Iowa City, Orvetta Wissler (Barnes); Jacksonville, Marion Wingate (Palin); Knoxville, Marion Jellicorse (de Roos); Lafayette, Mabel Washburn; Lexington (Kentucky), Bruce Houston (Davis); Los Angeles, Mildred Ewoldt; Memphis, Virginia Sellers (Webb); Minneapolis, Helen Hagan; Mt. Pleasant, Lucile Robertson; New Mexico, Mary Ann Gillespie; Peoria, Harriet Price; Philadelphia, Nora Thompson; Pittsburgh, Louise Wright; Richmond, Catharine Binger (Beverley); San Francisco, Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs); Seattle, Bernice Kirkham (Terry); Sigma Association, Margaret Bostic (Alcott); Springfield, Missouri, Norval Kanning (Jezard); St. Petersburg, Iva

- Brashear; Topeka, Geraldine Reed; Washington, D.C., Lucille Simpson (Stelle); Wellsburg, Dale Ross; Alpha Rho Alumnæ, Thelma Searles (Bowen).
15. Not having met national requirements, Epsilon forfeited its vote. Final action on this was taken by convention itself.
  16. The new Constitution Committee representing the various provinces which superseded the one formerly announced was: Alpha Burkart (Wettach), Grand President; Louise Foster, Alpha province; Nora Thompson, Gamma province; Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), Lambda province; Julia Miller (Emhardt), Epsilon province; Jeanette Bertram (Chapman), Delta province; Frances Remy (Dils), Mu province.
  17. Directly traceable to certain decisions of the Atlantic City meeting that were not continued or put into execution because of questioned legality, two schools of thought emerged on existing problems and procedures involving the correct interpretation of the constitution and by-laws and adherence to them. While this was the basic issue, offshoots not relevant almost beclouded the main point, and those offshoots were largely responsible for cancelled or deferred sessions and loss of time that prevented completion of the new document before the end of convention.
  18. Turned over to her in 1923, the Editor had also carried the work of business manager.
  19. For reasons of an already covered field and high operational costs, Dr. Hopkins reported that the child's guidance clinic considered was unfeasible.
  20. The voting of three salaries at the 1925 Grand Chapter meeting being found unconstitutional, convention then voted an honorarium to each of these officers. Amounts are given in the convention minutes.
  21. "The Magic Word," written by Evelyn Wilkinson (Spieth), Alpha Xi, won first prize for Epsilon province, while Alpha Eta's "Hats, Old and New" delighted the audience—and won second place. A musical romance woven from popular songs placed Lambda province third.
  22. The Knoxville Alumnæ, assisted by Zeta chapter, had charge of the banquet, with Margaret Wilson (Bloomer) as chairman.
  23. Dr. Hopkins left for Europe the day before, so Mrs. Hughes took her place on the program.
  24. Nora Thompson and Marguerite Fischer, Alpha Beta, were other members of the committee.
  25. She was an authority to whom all questions of correct Greek nomenclature could be referred. A review of Greek words, titles and pronunciations used in ZTA resulted in a number of corrections after her appointment in 1923. Qualified by eight years' study of Greek, Anne Burkart was the one person ever to hold this post, which was eventually discontinued. An audience-participation session at the 1923 convention fully demonstrated "the ready knowledge she possesses of the subject," said *Themis*.
  26. Important committee personnel included: Finance Committee and Themis Endowment Trustees, Alice Welch, chairman; Louise Gale (Haines), Rho; Mary L. Patrick, Beta; Ethel Charnock, ex-officio. House Advisory Committee—Louise Foster, Mu-Tau, chairman; Margret Bostic (Alcott), Sigma; Helen MacGregor, Upsilon; Edna Boyd, Upsilon; Inez Gardinier, Psi. Constitution Committee—Julia Miller (Emhardt), Alpha Delta, chairman; Bernice Kirkham (Terry), Psi; Helen Harrison, Xi; Catharine Binger (Beverley), ex-officio. Nominating Committee, Grace Mattern, Alpha Phi, chairman; Daisy Bashford (Hilton), Rho; Jeanette Bertram (Chapman), Alpha Eta; Elizabeth Parks (Bunn), Alpha Epsilon; Dorothy Kemp (Heller), Alpha Delta. National Philanthropic Committee—Frances Y. Smith, Alpha, chairman; Lucille Litaker, Phi; Lucille Simpson (Stelle), Zeta; Grace Thorne (Kerns), Sigma; Clair Woodruff (Bugg), Alpha. Pauline Dillon (Gragg), Alpha Kappa, was appointed scholarship chairman.



27. From the time of Zeta Tau Alpha's entrance into the Conference in 1909, until 1920, the Grand President was the official delegate. Since the 1926 convention stipulated that the Grand President was to be the delegate to NPC, Grand Chapter's action was in order.
28. Committee personnel included: Finance Committee—Alice Welsh, Alpha, chairman, Louise Gale (Haines), Rho; Ethel Cruse (Mouton), Kappa. *Themis* Endowment Trustees—Mary L. Patrick, Beta; Grace Thorne (Kerns), Sigma; Ruth Daniel (Warren), Beta Alpha. House Advisory Committee—Louise Foster, Mu-Tau, chairman; Margret Bostic (Alcott), Sigma; Edna Boyd, Upsilon; Inez Gardinier, Psi; May Bollinger (Orgain), Epsilon. Constitution Committee—Helen Harrison, Xi, chairman; Julia Miller (Emhardt), Alpha Delta; Bernice Kirkham (Terry), Psi. Nominating Committee—Grace Mattern, Alpha Phi, chairman; Daisy Bashford (Hilton), Rho; Helen MacGregor, Upsilon; Blanche Henry Clark, Phi, and Dorothy Kemp (Heller), Alpha Delta. Ritual—Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), Upsilon, chairman; Lottie Beutner (Lohstoetter), Chi; Iva Brashear, Theta. Songbook—Miriam Keast (Brown), Sigma, chairman; Edythe Clark (MacMahon), Omega. Scholarship—Pauline Dillon (Gragg), Alpha Kappa, chairman; Jeanette Bertram (Chapman), Alpha Eta; Helen Hyers, Beta Gamma; Elizabeth Parks (Bunn), Alpha Epsilon; Ruth Layman (Sunnitt), Zeta. Philanthropic Committee—Frances Yancey Smith, Alpha, chairman; Lucile Litaker, Phi; Lucille Simpson (Stelle), Zeta; Anita Waldhorst (Lockwood), Nu [later replaced by Ann Harbinson (Helmer), Omicron]; and Clair Woodruff (Bugg), Alpha.
29. After 1912 conventions were triennial, although not until 1915 were they made triennial in the constitution and by-laws. A length of time elapsed before the eighth and ninth conventions. The tenth convention voted the return to biennial meetings.
30. Hostess chapters were Rho, Chi, Alpha Beta, Alpha Rho, Beta Beta, Boston Alumnæ, Philadelphia Alumnæ, Harrisburg Alumnæ, Alpha Rho Alumnæ Association.
31. At the usual pre-convention Grand Chapter meeting, charters were granted to Kappa Alpha Sigma, Akron University, Akron, Ohio; Delta Sigma, New Mexico State College, Las Cruces, New Mexico; and to Gamma Nu, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon.
32. Alice Welsh, Founder, and member of the Finance Committee, was unable to complete the journey to Bigwin because of illness.
33. They were: Elizabeth Moon, Alpha province; Elizabeth Stone, Beta province; Alice Porter (Moore), Delta province; Grace Thorne (Kerns), Eta province; Mary Ann Gillespie, Theta-Iota province; Bertha Cruse (Gardner), Zeta province; Mary Patrick, Epsilon province; Adeline Scandrett, Lambda province; Helen Clair, Mu province, and Mrs. Hilton.
34. Omicron chapter, not having met national requirements, forfeited its vote by action confirmed by convention vote.
35. Since alumnæ supervision had been used "with great success," convention gave it official recognition as a type of chapter assistance.
36. A commercial sales project was considered favorably as a means of increasing the House Loan Fund.
37. Clever posters illustrating authentic styles and customs between 1898 and 1928 were displayed in the *History* booth featuring Volume I of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*. Mabel Hewitt, Alpha Zeta, did the posters.
38. At this convention, as at others, the question of membership certificates came up. Again the motion was lost.
39. Beta Delta's guide and counselor since its organization as a local group, Marian Thayer (MacMillan) achieved national fame through her discovery of "water pictures," theorized to be the origin of conventional design. She was also a psychologist of note. Cordelia Cox was a specialist in social work and public health.



## Decade Development

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### *Organization and Government*

TO SAY that the third decade was an extremely important period in Zeta's organizational development would be stating it conservatively. It was filled with "firsts" and important developments.

World War I caused the postponement of the convention that normally, under the triennial system, was scheduled for 1918. So when 1919 came, the leaders were anxious to call the members together again. This they did at the first word from the President, recently returned from France, to go ahead with plans. And although this meeting<sup>1</sup> reestablished the convention pattern, the regular observance of the triennial schedule was still some years away.

However, another four-year period was to intervene before the next convention, for the 1922 meeting was deferred until 1923. Finances were again somewhat responsible for this postponement,<sup>2</sup> although the final decision was naturally strongly influenced by the desire to celebrate the fraternity's twenty-fifth anniversary. Thus, the 1926 convention was actually the first to be held on schedule since 1912, but the Blue Ridge meeting promptly returned the fraternity to two-year conventions. Two years later, the 1928<sup>3</sup> conclave was held on schedule.

Procedure at convention remained practically the same as in former years. It was, "in short, that followed by any well-regulated national meeting."

Convention's powers also remained much the same. As 1928 ended they were, in substance, to determine the annual dues and initiation fees, to elect officers, and "to exercise all other functions of government excepting such powers as have been 'hereinbefore or afterward delegated to others.'" Convention determined the compensation of remunerated officers and made "all laws necessary in carrying out the provisions of the constitution," usually selecting the next meeting place. And after 1926 it had the power to withdraw a charter from any college chapter failing to send a delegate to two successive conventions. Obviously devised for an extreme case, that prerogative was never used.

In 1919, with the incorporation in the constitution and by-laws of the projected new alumnae district plan, the voting personnel of convention was thereafter "composed of one delegate<sup>4</sup> from each college chapter, and one

representative<sup>5</sup> from each alumnæ district." The 1923 convention required alternate delegates.

By 1926 the voting personnel was enlarged to include not only Grand Chapter but the province presidents and official delegates, one each from college chapters and from chartered alumnæ groups. The addition of the province presidents as voting members marked the assimilation of the province system into the national structure. Attendance of delegates was compulsory and each chapter was required to send one alternate delegate. All members present had parliamentary privileges, but only those just indicated had voting powers.

Important to the government of Zeta Tau Alpha was the procedural change written into the constitution at the eighth convention, requiring submission of suggested constitutional amendments to the fraternity thirty days before convention. The list was to be sent out by April 1. This was "calculated to avoid hasty action or decisions based on a lack of knowledge or serious consideration."

GRAND CHAPTER: Grand Chapter's duties were again "those usually delegated to such an executive body, with the usual lines drawn between the legislative and executive." A record of that day also commented that, "as is characteristic of most progressive organizations, the early history of Grand Chapter finds that executive body to have been strikingly free, with wide powers. Indeed, except for the institution of several committees, not many changes are to be found through the years. Grand chapter always has been, and still is, the court of last appeals in the interim between conventions."

In a decade filled with "firsts" and marked by changes, a really major change took place in 1923 when there was "a change in the executive management." The combining of the offices of Secretary and Treasurer<sup>6</sup> and of Editor and Historian, the formal creation of a Central Office with the Secretary-Treasurer in charge (a departure from the 1920 plan), and the decision to remunerate several officers marked a progressive step that looked to the future. After the 1923 convention, *Themis* said:

The change in the executive management of Zeta Tau Alpha is a convention move of intense interest to the fraternity at large.

After a careful survey of the wide field now covered by Zeta Tau Alpha, the great increase in the chapter roll since the 1919 convention when even then the executive work was very heavy, and the resultant immense amount of work that has confronted the various officers since this expansion has taken place, it was found that a change in the former system of management was necessary.

Much of the work . . . had grown to such volume and exactness in every way that the full time of various officers was required. As might be expected, these very offices were the ones requiring previous training of a specialized and highly skilled nature, either business or professional, before the officers are fitted to occupy Grand Chapter positions.

To centralize further the executive work . . . it was found that certain offices could be

combined to advantage, and while the result would be double work in that office . . . it would do away with duplication of various forms and cards, and make for greater efficiency and ease in handling the affairs of the fraternity.

In view of the fact that the officers chosen would necessarily have to be highly trained for their particular phase of the work, and in view of the fact that a most excellent financial standing was reported at convention, it was found that hereafter it would be possible to do away with the necessity of asking full-time services without remuneration. Without a dissenting voice, convention voted to add two salaries, making a total of three.

Reiterating that "charter" grants by Grand Chapter vote alone are, then, practically and traditionally of Zeta Tau Alpha," a 1928 record again spoke gratefully of the policy felt to have been a basic and continuing factor in the fraternity's growth, terming it "one of Grand Chapter's outstanding duties or privileges . . . as deeply rooted traditionally as constitutionally. Charters,"<sup>8</sup> it said, "have always been granted by Grand Chapter, never by vote of the individual chapters, a practice followed by many other fraternities." That procedure, "inaugurated in the beginning . . . has proved of great benefit to the growing organization. And time has thoroughly vindicated it, although there was a time when Zeta Tau Alpha stood almost alone in the N.P.C. world in this procedure. Chapter vote on petitions, broached at more than one convention," was consistently voted down, and "support . . . diminished almost to the vanishing point" when the history of extension and the factors to be considered were explained.

Reviewing the preceding decades, "in Zeta Tau Alpha, Grand Chapter is specifically defined as being composed of a specified number of alumnae members, and the figure has ranged all the way from the original five to as many as eight members." But it swung back to the initial number in 1926. For four years (1902-1906) there were five members on Grand Chapter. The following six years there were six members. For the next nine years there were seven.<sup>9</sup> Eight, the largest number, came about in 1920 upon the resignation of Dr. Hopkins as President, when the office of Panhellenic Delegate was created for her. This number served until 1923. At that time office combinations brought the number to six, but in 1926 the number returned to five when the President again became the N.P.C. delegate.<sup>10</sup> There was no change in 1928.

Since the term, Grand Chapter, was destined for eventual replacement, history should record its then-existing status as an executive group which, for consistent work and accomplishment, set a very high standard. Said the 1928 *History*:

Aside from performing the duties naturally incumbent upon such offices, there are the specially assigned ones: The Grand President<sup>11</sup> supervises extension (with the advice and consent of Grand Chapter), acts as delegate to N.P.C., acts as chairman of convention, handles discipline cases, has supervision of provinces, directs the movements of the National Inspector, and is an ex-officio member of the Constitution Committee.



The Vice-President<sup>12</sup> acts as chairman of the alumnae organization work; grants and signs alumnae charters.

The Secretary-Treasurer<sup>13</sup> is the executive of Central Office, from which is issued the secret publication, *The Link*, is custodian of pins, is an ex-officio member of the Finance Committee, has charge of the installation trunk, is business manager of convention and *Themis*, is secretary of Grand Chapter and convention, issues a directory every four years beginning with 1926, issues demits to members qualifying for transfer from one chapter to another, has charge of supplies, blanks, insignia and bound volumes of *Themis*, as well as copies of the constitution and ritual.

The Editor-Historian,<sup>14</sup> in addition to acting as Editor-in-Chief of *Themis* has, since the inaugural issue in 1923, had full charge of the convention publication, *The Chain*. By virtue of the nature of her work, to her falls the general writing duties that cover a wide category of requests for articles on general or specific fraternity subjects. She acts as official representative to *Banta's Greek Exchange* and has charge of convention publicity.

The Inspector, in addition to her official chapter visits, is chairman of the Ritual Committee. Fraternity examinations are under her direction and supervision.

All grand officers have done, and still do, a certain amount of traveling, including inspections of active chapters and petitioning groups. They have had charge of the installations of practically all of the new chapters—in fact, all of them in comparatively recent days.

Until 1926, Grand Chapter meetings were held at various intervals whenever needed, but no stated number was specified. After that date annual meetings were “constitutionally required and special meetings may be, and are, called by the President. Grand chapter meetings have always been held immediately preceding national conventions, and short sessions have usually followed adjournment.”

**THE PROVINCE SYSTEM:** Another phase of the change in the executive management called for the division of the country into geographical districts—each with its own president and secretary. The reason: growth.

“With Zeta Tau Alpha represented in all parts of the country and many of the chapters widely separated . . . it was evident even before the 1923 convention that work had become complex enough to make necessary the establishment of this system of liaison officers who would serve as the connecting link between Grand Chapter and the chapters in their districts.” These officers were also to “assist the chapters with . . . problems not requiring Grand Chapter attention.” The role of the presidents included “standing in close relationship to and contact with their chapters and individual members, a condition wished for by Grand Chapter, but one obviously impossible because of their distance and the heavy work of their offices.”

The first geographical distribution was worked out at the 1925 Grand Chapter meeting, when the first presidents<sup>15</sup> were appointed. However, after that, the provinces elected their own presidents. Selection of secretaries was, from the first, left to the districts. Officers were elected at province meetings held in years alternating with national conventions. Those sectional meetings discussed

matters of local and national interest, had no legislative power, but could recommend legislation to national convention.

The system was actually launched in the spring of 1925, when first instructions were sent to the new province officers. The province president's chapter visits alternated with those of the National Inspector, whom she assisted by grading the annual fraternity examinations.

The first distribution of provinces was:

Alpha: Virginia, District of Columbia, Maryland, Delaware, North Carolina.

Beta: Louisiana, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi.

Gamma (New England): Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York.

Delta: Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee.

Epsilon: Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois.

Zeta: Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas.

Eta: Missouri, Kansas.

Theta: Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska.

Iota: Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona.

Kappa: California, Nevada.

Mu: Oregon, Washington.

Since there was only one chapter in Iota it was decided, for the time being, to consolidate it with Theta province, the entire section being known as Theta province.

"The province system . . . has continued to be a growing force for the strength of the fraternity," the President told the 1928 convention. At the same time she reported that "Grand Chapter [had] adopted the policy of sending a grand officer to province conventions whenever possible, in order that a stronger national feeling might exist throughout the fraternity."

**COMMITTEES:** In this decade the committee system reached its highest development thus far. But what had been evolved to date?

"Up to this point," said the 1928 *History*, ". . . for the most part, committees were not greatly used in everyday administration. The plan of making a few people responsible, a policy more or less continuously in evidence since the early days, was apparent. There had been standing committees and other committees . . . some functioning with little or no success, so work came to be centered more and more in a few officers." But, "the extension chairman and alumnæ chairman (officers not on Grand Chapter, but working with, and assisting Grand Chapter)" seemed to be considered in a somewhat different category.

With the rapid growth of the fraternity, the installation of the province system and the added volume of work, additional standing committees were created to assist the executive officers in handling "the increasingly heavy work." With the adoption of the Themis Endowment Fund (1923), the National House Loan Fund (1926) and the approaching adoption of an even larger philan-

thropic work, it was felt that "the appointment of qualified *alumnæ* on committees would not only be efficient" but the hope was entertained that it "would ensure more extensive *alumnæ* interest and participation in national affairs."

A survey of the committee picture found the following standing committees functioning "continuously between conventions":

(1) Finance Committee<sup>16</sup>—Composed of three *alumnæ* members, none of them holding a Grand Chapter or province office, with the Grand Secretary-Treasurer as an ex-officio member. They drew up the budget, approved scholarship loans, audited fraternity accounts, held annual meetings and had a required meeting before convention. In emergencies this committee "had the power to transfer money from one fund to another."

(2) House Advisory Committee—Composed of five *alumnæ*. A lawyer, an architect, and an experienced business woman were to be among the personnel "wherever possible." Chapters were to "secure this committee's approval before building."

The House Advisory Committee and the Themis Endowment Trustees were joint administrators of the National House Loan Fund. The former passed "on loans, while to the joint groups fell decisions regarding the amount of the loan and rate of interest."

(3) Constitution Committee—With the Grand President as an ex-officio member, three *alumnæ* members "received, prepared, and submitted" proposed constitutional amendments by the specified time before convention.

(4) Nominating Committee—Composed of five members, three *alumnæ* and two college members (who were upperclassmen at the time of their appointment), chosen with consideration to geographical distribution. They "investigated proposed candidates' ability and willingness to serve," and prepared a ticket which was "submitted to the fraternity sixty days before convention."

(5) Ritual Committee<sup>17</sup>—Composed of three members. The National Inspector was its chairman. They received suggested ritualistic changes—and no doubt initiated some.

A Scholarship Chairman was first appointed in 1926.

The 1928 convention increased the number of standing committees by adding a Philanthropic Committee, a Scholarship Committee and the Themis Endowment Trustees. Investment of the Themis Endowment Fund was the duty of the Trustees. Committee members were Grand Chapter appointees but no member of that body, or any province officer, was eligible for membership thereon.

That the committee system was well entrenched by the end of the third decade was evidenced in the President's report to the 1928 convention. "Next in interest to the work with Grand Chapter," she said, "I have found my work with the committees. After the first creaking of the wheels which usually accompanies the setup of new machinery had died down, our committee system has been a success. It has lifted a burden from grand officers, already taxed to the breaking point, and, with a few suggested changes, will give us, I believe, a working basis second to none."

**ALUMNÆ:** The *alumnæ* field remained under the jurisdiction of the Vice-President during this decade. By decision of the 1923 convention, chapters were directed to keep their *alumnæ* better informed by sending them newsletters twice a year. Progress attended this move, for in 1926 the report of the National



Inspector found that "our alumnæ chapters [are] becoming more and more a positive force and influence to our college chapters, and in several cases the college and alumnæ chapters [are] working in close cooperation and unity for mutual benefit."

Alumnæ charters were authorized in 1926, and two years later it was specified

## ZETA TAU ALPHA ALUMNAE CHARTER

To Whom These Presents Shall Come, Greeting

Whereas, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

having joined together into an Alumnæ Group located at \_\_\_\_\_  
and having complied with the provisions of Constitution and By-Laws of ZETA TAU ALPHA are by this instrument constituted \_\_\_\_\_  
with all rights and privileges thereof.

The members above named are designated charter members of said Alumnæ Chapter.  
This Charter granted by the authority of the Grand Chapter.

Witness our hands and seal this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grand President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grand Vice-President

(*The Alumnæ Charter of This Decade*)

that they be signed by the Grand President as well as the Vice-President, formerly the sole signer.

Reclassified, alumnæ associations<sup>18</sup> became nonchartered units after the Canadian convention, which also abolished the previous requirement that all members of chartered alumnæ groups must be *Themis* subscribers. The adoption of the *Themis* life subscription plan in 1923 made this ruling no longer necessary.

**EXAMINATIONS:** When the 1919 convention specified annual inspections it also authorized annual examinations "to be given under the direction of the Inspector." Then, a few years later the 1927 Grand Chapter meeting decided that "one set of questions was to constitute the national examinations, the Inspector recording grades following the grading of the papers by the province president."

The November, 1927, *Themis* explained that, "In former years *Themis* published not only examination grades but also the individual grade made by each chapter member. The former custom is being revived in part with the examination grades of each chapter and the average made by the province herewith printed. Individual grades have been published in *The Link*, but knowing scattered alumnæ are interested in the records made by their chapters,

the group standings were compiled for *Themis*." Examination results were also found in the May, 1928, *Themis*. The passing grade was 80.

SUPERVISION AND PROBATION were terms that came to have meaning in this decade. At the 1926 Grand Chapter meeting "a basis for chapter probation" came up, and "the President was empowered to make a thorough investigation." At the next meeting, "still under discussion, the President 'was authorized to make an important survey in connection with probation.'" Probation was then in existence, for "one chapter was continued in that status." Then "alumnæ supervision of college chapters not maintaining the fraternity's standards [was] authorized." Preferably, "the supervisor, functioning under the direction of Grand Chapter, should not be a member of the group under supervision."

Definite scholarships standards for initiation and affiliation were adopted in 1919.

In the field of discipline, a section on suspension replaced the former expulsion rules, after the Bigwin Inn convention.

### *Central Office*

Central Office was created by action of the forward-looking 1920 Grand Chapter meeting. And its history involves an evolutionary process.

As originally planned by Dr. Hopkins, the office was to be under the direction of the President, with whom it was to be located during a trial period,



THE SECOND CENTRAL OFFICE, Wellsburg, West Virginia

namely, until the next convention. The Dallas meeting voted the President the services of a private secretary and since the new Grand Secretary was qualified for both posts, that fact effected the combination. It was a full-time post. So the first Central Office consisted of the Grand President with her private secretary, who, in this case happened to be the Grand Secretary. Carrying double duties, the latter became the fraternity's first remunerated officer, charged with the conduct of the office, "under the direction and jurisdiction of the Grand President."

The alternative of a Central Office or a private secretary for the President had been placed before the 1919 convention. It was referred to the Constitution Committee. Since "the volume of work was equally heavy in all offices," they recommended "clerical help for all grand officers whenever needed." Convention heartily approved and "from that time on, busy Grand Chapter members found this prerogative a boon for which to be grateful."

But the desire for a central business office, and also for some Grand Chapter member to devote her entire time to fraternity work persisted in the mind of the President. When she offered the plan a year later, 1920 was considered "more auspicious" than 1919. While 1919 finances could not afford the move, and even after 1920 special action was required to provide the necessary support, the period of expansion just starting virtually made the move mandatory.

Zeta Tau Alpha was not a pioneer in the establishment of a Central Office, but she was among the first to follow that trend—early recognizing the coming need for and inevitability of a business headquarters. So, as soon as, if not actually before, finances permitted, the step was taken.

"In the matter of remunerated officers, Zeta Tau Alpha was among the most progressive." Actually, such a course was advocated as early as 1918,<sup>19</sup> when remuneration was recommended for the Inspector. Grand Chapter letters of that period reveal that only insufficient funds prevented favorable action.

This first Central Office was established in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Through a coincidence, both officers lived in that city. This arrangement continued until the fall of 1922, when the President went to New York City. Central Office was continued in Pittsburgh, though, with the Secretary in charge.

A new era dawned. "The . . . task of training the chapters to a greater degree of promptness, accuracy, and efficiency began. Many a slow or procrastinating officer awoke suddenly to persistent reminders" that kept coming until delinquent material was dispatched. The National Inspector was impressed. "Our chapters," she marvelled, "have learned the lesson of promptness and business efficiency to a great degree."

The 1923 convention placed its stamp of approval on the office when it accepted the change in the executive management of the fraternity which, among other things, called for combining the offices of Secretary and Treasurer,





THE THIRD CENTRAL OFFICE—419 East Grace Street,  
Richmond, Virginia. Ethel Charnock is at the files

with that officer in charge of Central Office.

During the next three years—which “saw the working out of the necessary adjustments and business techniques incidental to a move and the combining of offices”—the office was located in Wellsburg, West Virginia, the home of the new Secretary-Treasurer.

In working out a new constitution, the 1926 convention also sanctioned Central Office and its retention according to the plan under which it had functioned since 1923. Following the Blue Ridge meeting the office was moved to Richmond, Virginia, “back to the mother state.” Said a 1928 record, “It is a happy instance that it is located in the home city of the Grand President. The Inspector travels out of the office . . . [which] is most comfortably equipped, and it is . . . the scene of Grand Chapter meetings.”

The office remained in Richmond until after the 1928 convention, when it was moved to Beaumont, Texas, the home of the new President.

### *Expansion*

This was the roaring twenties—the booming years, when success was the slogan, when the spiral moved constantly upward, and everything was on the upgrade—the “upper” the better. And life was “just a bowl of cherries” to so very many people.

Facetiousness is not the intent of that description. Life and thinking were

exactly that. Everything moved swiftly. Aspirations aimed naturally—automatically—toward the highest, and star-hitching was the rule rather than the exception. Thoughts were in terms of prosperity—preferably in the “ultra” class. Whether that prosperity was valid is beside the point, for valid or not, it existed. There seemed to be no limit to man’s faith in himself or in his belief of his possibilities of success. The fabulous was scarcely a visionary dream when men were achieving it daily. Money was something that a great many people had and some had it in inordinate quantities. But it was rather generally a commodity to be enjoyed—its expenditure often a matter of great pleasure. Those who possessed it less generously feared not to aspire, nor did they doubt their acquisitory ability, especially in the case of something greatly desired. It was a lush period, not only in living, but in thought.

But what had this fabulous span of years covering a post-war and pre-depression era to do with Zeta’s expansion from 1918-1928? Precisely what the times have to do with those who live in them.

Can zooming enrollments, the acceleration of interest in higher education and the marked increase in women registrants be disassociated from the tempo and trend of the times? They can not. Further, locals springing up on college campuses all over the country were evidence of a desire for group association, and evidence, too, that the numbers desiring that affiliation were too great to be absorbed by the nationals already established on those campuses. New groups were needed.

With the end of the war, extension took on an aspect that previously would have seemed impossible. The next few years were to be—and were recognized as being—the most propitious for Zeta to enter many fields that formerly had seemed well covered. And entrance conditions were highly favorable. It is doubtful if the general membership or chapters recognized all of this from an analytical standpoint, but they knew what they wanted and those wants harmonized with the possibilities of the times.

Pro-expansion expressions at the 1919 convention came from all parts of the country. Some did not lack a note of insistence. Kappa recommended having an extension committee. Mu spoke of expansion. Sigma’s was “a plaintive note from an isolated chapter.” The Kansas Zetas longed for extension “insofar as possible without lowering our standards, especially in the North and Middle West.” Tau and Upsilon voiced similar sentiments, the latter adding, “especially in the North.” Understandably, convention decided “that a special campaign for extension shall be made.”

An alert, interested and expansion-minded membership combined to bring seventeen new chapters into the fraternity in the next four years. And it came about in a wonderfully wide number of ways: Panhellenic friendships; members transferring to colleges where no Zeta chapter existed; personal ties; interested alumnae, and personal connections.<sup>20</sup> “Informative and organizational work” was



also done by the traveling officer (the Inspector), all of which came about with an ease that pointed to the rightness of the time.

Also, "the plans of the extension chairman were approved by the President, Dr. Hopkins, and members in various parts of the country were appointed to the committee." Said the 1928 *History*, "The work they carried on was, of course, investigational, and through their efforts several new chapters were added to the roll, but the majority came in exactly the same way as former chapters had come, as outlined in Dr. Hopkins' statements of policy and procedure." Which meant—largely personal.

Here, perhaps, additional accent should be placed on the Panhellenic friendships and support that were responsible for a gratifying number of new chapters. As early as 1912, *Themis* glowed with appreciation because,

More than once during the past two years has Zeta Tau Alpha had the opportunity to realize fully the meaning of the inter-Greek bond. . . . This interest has manifested itself especially in the matter of extension, and we feel obligated to fulfill the expectations of those who have stood sponsor for us in such a way.

The "loyal and helpful friendship through the years of Ida Shaw Martin, well-known fraternity writer and authority . . ." was especially mentioned in Zeta's first *History*. As well it might have been, for Mrs. Martin played a conspicuous part in the early days.<sup>21</sup>

Seventeen<sup>22</sup> new chapters from 1919 to 1923 "unquestionably gave a glorious answer . . . to the extension requests of the Chicago convention," and many of the lonesome chapters had their Zeta neighbors, but came 1923 and the chorus sang in an altogether different key. The sentiment fervently expressed at the Colorado convention was diametrically opposed to that chorused four years previously. Everyone was delighted with every one of the new chapters, each an acknowledged valuable acquisition. But there had been contributing factors to the accumulating of such adverse sentiment. Besides, when there is so much success in so short a time—! The President's report to that conclave dealt deftly and understandingly with both sentiment and an extension era so favorable that it might never come again. She said:

Extension has occupied more than its ordinary share of attention. At the 1919 convention there was a recommendation proposed that there be a definite extension campaign. There was an extension committee appointed, the exact nature of whose work was not definitely determined. Through the zeal and the assistance of Miss Donaldson, several new chapters were added to our roll. Through other channels many others have come, until the chapter roll now reaches thirty-nine, Northwestern local having just been granted a charter.

While to the casual observer, such rapid extension may seem unwise, careful study of the changing college world will reveal many sound reasons for it. During 1917-1919 the war caused a great lull in fraternity life. It followed the slump in all interests save those directly concerned with the war. After the war we found ourselves in the midst of a great change in the status of women, which was most noticeable among the young women of college age. There seemed to be a larger number of them entering coeducational colleges



and universities; these in turn seemed to need rebuilding and looked to the entrance of fraternities to help. The opportunity was here to grow, and we took advantage of it.

Since extension was a burning issue that warranted clarification and understanding, the editor of *Themis* treated the issue editorially in the November, 1923, number, when she reflected that:

Those attending convention will never forget the recurring note in the reports of the active chapters to the effect that extension should be frowned upon, and although the expression appeared in countless differently worded phrases, the sentiment remained essentially the same.

Of course, at convention [the relating of] reasons and causes unknown to the average active chapter quickly brought complete understanding on the subject, and the result was merely a reiteration of Zeta's long-standing policy of conservative extension. Zeta Tau Alpha's policy always has been, and will remain the same so far as sensible conservatism is concerned, and the granting of charters merely marks keeping pace with the demands of the time, to which each fraternity must pay heed. Excellence, never sacrificed, has always been gained.

The work of expansion is ever with us today and almost every fraternity is emphasizing the fact. But in spite of its insistent demands for attention, a great many do not have a clear conception of what the problem really presents to the officers whose particular problem it is to solve. . . . Every one of us has heard the oft-repeated remark that "conservative expansion is favored, but of course, no good opportunities must be overlooked." How many realize how many good opportunities are continually placed before Zeta Tau Alpha? So, although the expression looks like plain English, it is hard to translate into exact terms of procedure.

The years following the war have seen remarkable changes in our universities and colleges, for not only have enrollments been greatly increased but more funds are available than ever before. State legislatures have increased appropriations, drives have succeeded, and every college seems to have plans for future growth.

Everything has pointed to the present as the most strategic and needed time for fraternity expansion, and there is no fraternity but has recognized the fact, and acted accordingly. Unusual opportunities are offered in colleges and universities of high standing and even the most liberal of expansionists could not take advantage of all. Undoubtedly, the present is the time for intelligent expansion, just as in the past it was felt the more intelligent course was an opposite one.

"Desirable petitions<sup>23</sup> from equally desirably located groups resulted in the placing of eleven<sup>24</sup> other chapters before the 1926 convention." Commenting, the 1928 *History* observed that "although this number may seem large, it actually represented a choice of many petitions, and represented chapters whose inclusion seemed of such worth and value to the national organization that their acceptance was deemed wise." Of this the President said at Blue Ridge:

In 1923, the sentiment of convention was for conservative extension, consequently Grand Chapter has been guided by that expression in all charter grants during the ensuing three years.

She went on to explain the many factors demanding consideration in the extension picture:

Only those who have been on Grand Chapter can realize how many elements enter

into a decision. While certain values may be evaluated, many others cannot (and too often it is these very changing values that cause us to make what seem to be unwise decisions). Even with all the possible aspects weighed as carefully as we can estimate, the element of chance is always present; but we must take advantage of openings when they come, otherwise in another generation we shall be looking back on lost opportunities.

Some nationals have limited themselves to different types of colleges and universities and have mapped out a schedule of extension, so many chapters per year in given schools. While this plan has some advantages I am not committed to it, as a policy which ties an organization without prescribed limits is never able to meet the exceptional situations, and valuable chapters are too often lost. I do believe, however, that other things being equal, the future of all fraternities lies in the large state universities and I hope Zeta Tau Alpha will eventually be in every state college and university in the United States. The larger colleges for women do not favor fraternities, hence we must concern ourselves with those that do, and the trend is toward state schools. Of our forty-eight chapters, twenty-one are already in state colleges and universities, eighteen are in large colleges and universities either partly supported by the state or entirely private. This gives us roughly eighty per cent of our chapters in large institutions where the chances of continued existence and growth are practically assured. It leaves only twenty per cent in the small schools, which is a ratio that in my judgment might well be adhered to. If we were to limit ourselves to the large institutions, we should lose the splendid type of girl that these small schools can give us. There is no question in my mind but that the inner life of the chapter, traditions, etc., are more highly developed in these colleges, yet the danger lies in the inversion of attitudes, the lack of sufficient number of members to justify existence, and the constant possibility of a change of support for fraternities from the administration. These are improbable in large institutions.

Concluding, she reminded the membership that:

When we realize that there are about fifty eligible fields in which we do not have chapters, it is obvious that extension will continue to be one of the most important and difficult phases of the fraternity administration.

The still-possible tradition of small chapters, adhered to up to this period, was reiterated in this decade. Of this, the authoritative 1928 *History* said substantially:

In the early days when the fraternity itself was small, chapters were naturally, and preferably small. Fortunately, Zeta became a member of N.P.C. at an early date. Being observant, she was able to shape her policies with a wisdom tempered by the experience of others. Even at her first Conference, Zeta's delegate observed the amount of discussion that centered around the size of chapters, and the ensuing problems when groups became so large that cliques formed. The conviction that small chapters were best became firmly entrenched. Although never actually incorporated anywhere, the tradition of small chapters had, by this time, become virtually an unwritten rule. For many years, twelve or fifteen members was considered an ideal size for a chapter that was not living in a house; twenty-five for a chapter that was. It was customary for a chapter to secure Grand Chapter approval before allowing the number to exceed twenty-five. Under 1928 conditions, though, both figures had been necessarily enlarged somewhat, the latter going to thirty-five and the former to thirty.

After the 1926 convention seven groups<sup>25</sup> were successful aspirants for charters before the close of the decade and the states of Louisiana, Nebraska

and New Mexico were found on the roll for the first time. But before that, and perhaps to set the record straight from the beginning, the new Grand Chapter, meeting in Richmond some two months after convention, committed itself to "an extension policy of conservatism."

Following this up, at their next (1927) meeting, they formulated a new and much different procedure to be followed in the inspection of locals.<sup>26</sup> The announcement of this more selective plan explained that:

Timely and important to petitioner and petitioned alike was the consideration given to the preliminary investigation and manner of inspecting locals. . . . Designed to avoid embarrassment and disappointment to groups not found to qualify for a charter grant, a precautionary screening plan provided for a preliminary informal visit by some authorized person (a non-Grand Chapter officer) before a group was to be allowed to submit a formal petition and a grand officer sent. Only after a favorable report from the informal visit (that was unaccompanied by parties or social functions) was the group to be notified that a formal petition was in order.

Plainly, groups encouraged to send formal petitions were "well situated for a charter grant," while others would "not progress beyond the informal-visit stage"—a procedure considered "in the best interests of all concerned" in those days of long lists of petitioners. Too, "even more serious consideration" was to be given to the wishes of the nearby chapters, preferably having their support of a petitioning group.

"Putting that plan into immediate operation (in early 1927), Grand Chapter granted only informal visits to the groups on the currently petitioning list."

Studied in retrospect, the researcher senses the earnestness and eagerness of those many groups who knocked at the gates of Zeta Tau Alpha in that shining extension era of the expanding twenties. One looks at the locations and wonders if sheer number might not often have been an influencing factor in the non-success of some. There were just too many. Not all of them could be taken.

As the third decade neared a close, the fraternity's interest in expansion was no less ardent than it had been thirty years ago, when the early Alphas were looking forward to acquiring even a second chapter. A 1928 manuscript accurately reflected: "That no subject is of more interest to Zeta Tau Alpha than that of expansion is fully attested by the unfailing occurrence of its appearance at various national conventions and the interest invariably displayed in its consideration. Each period in Zeta history considered it; each convention discussed it from one angle or another; it has been perennial in convention appearance and ability to demand interest." And it was thoroughly covered again in 1928, when the Zetas gathered in Canada heard a comprehensive summing up of the situation as viewed and practiced then.

In her report on extension to that convention, the President declared: "Upon no point of Zeta Tau Alpha policy is there, perhaps, so much divergence of opinion as upon the question of extension."



Outlining the policy followed by the 1926-1928 Grand Chapter, she continued:

Since the evident desire of the fraternity was for conservative expansion, our first step was to define conservative expansion, and then see that our organization was well able to assimilate new groups wherever located. As a basis, I have defined conservative expansion as a strong group in a well-established school, and a location where the new chapter will aid, and be aided by, nearby chapters, or, a group in a location where Zeta Tau Alpha needs to be known. . . . Lack of extension is stagnation, overextension is suicide; the middle course, supervised expansion, can, I believe (by retaining our present expansion policy, the vote of Grand Chapter guided by the opinion of the province and guarded by the double inspection—informal by an alumna, formal by a national officer) be considered the most feasible plan, and is hereby recommended to this convention as the policy for the next Grand Chapter to follow.

At the conclusion of her report she emphasized that "expressions of opinion from active and alumnae chapters in each province have been requested and considered by Grand Chapter before admitting to the petitioning list any new chapters, so that these decisions are based upon information sent by the local and college, that gained by inspection and the desire and opinion of the province in which the group is located, thus giving a threefold check."

Conforming to that policy and reiterating its traditional stand, the convention approved the recommendation "that the fraternity go on record as favoring a conservative policy of extension," and investigation of the extension field "in the Far-West states of Theta-Iota province" was specified. The latter recommendation was significant in that it expressed a desire for expansion in the Far West "where Zeta Tau Alpha's representation was not numerous." Colonization was also endorsed as the best procedure in localities "where there are old chapters of other nationals." Here was the emergence of a word—*colonization*—that was to recur increasingly as its importance grew in later years.

Evaluating these fulsome years, it is evident that no decade will ever be as demanding of a full treatment of its expansion story as this era, which was literally keynoted by extension. And only history can know if its achievement of thirty-five new chapters in the swift-moving ten-year span can, or ever should be, matched.

Its eloquently fruitful record stands as its best testimony. The third decade secured the chapters. To the next decades would fall their assimilation and development. Geographically, the fraternity had "reached the far corners of the country, from Texas and Louisiana to Minnesota, New York and Pennsylvania." In point of chapters, Zeta Tau Alpha was already "the seventh largest among the N.P.C. fraternities."

As 1928 passed into history, fifty-seven chapters were inscribed on the chapter roll.

### *Publications*

THEMIS: Transformation might be the right word to keynote this era. For, as the magazine grew in stature and fulfilled purpose in its mission of inspiration and information, a transformation came about wherein the *Themis* of 1928 bore little or no resemblance to the magazine of ten years ago. And the process moved on apace, with a tempo both immediate and steady once it started.

Elected *in absentia* at the Chicago (1919) convention, Abbie Graham, Lambda, was the next Editor of *Themis* for about two and one-half years.<sup>27</sup>

The magazine remained unchanged in cover and format. It was characteristic of the Editor and her literary style. Personal essays, her special forte, were especially indicative of this. "Though she was not an exhaustive writer," said a reviewer, "we find bits of her philosophy all through the magazine."

Then an entirely new era, dynamic and forward-moving, was ushered in with the appointment, in 1922, of the next Editor—a trained journalist—whose initial issue (produced on short notice), was the March, 1922 number.<sup>28</sup> Her perception of the work ahead was immediate.<sup>29</sup> Recognized was the "need for more information, about the fraternity, the dissemination of Zeta news and activities; and a close contact with the field, as well as a great need for historical knowledge."

As a positive approach to this challenge she enunciated a "works not words policy." Promptly translating that belief into action, efforts were bent toward achieving for the magazine "a real place in the sun of the Greek-magazine world, while giving the fraternity a journal that will be informative, inspirational and broad."

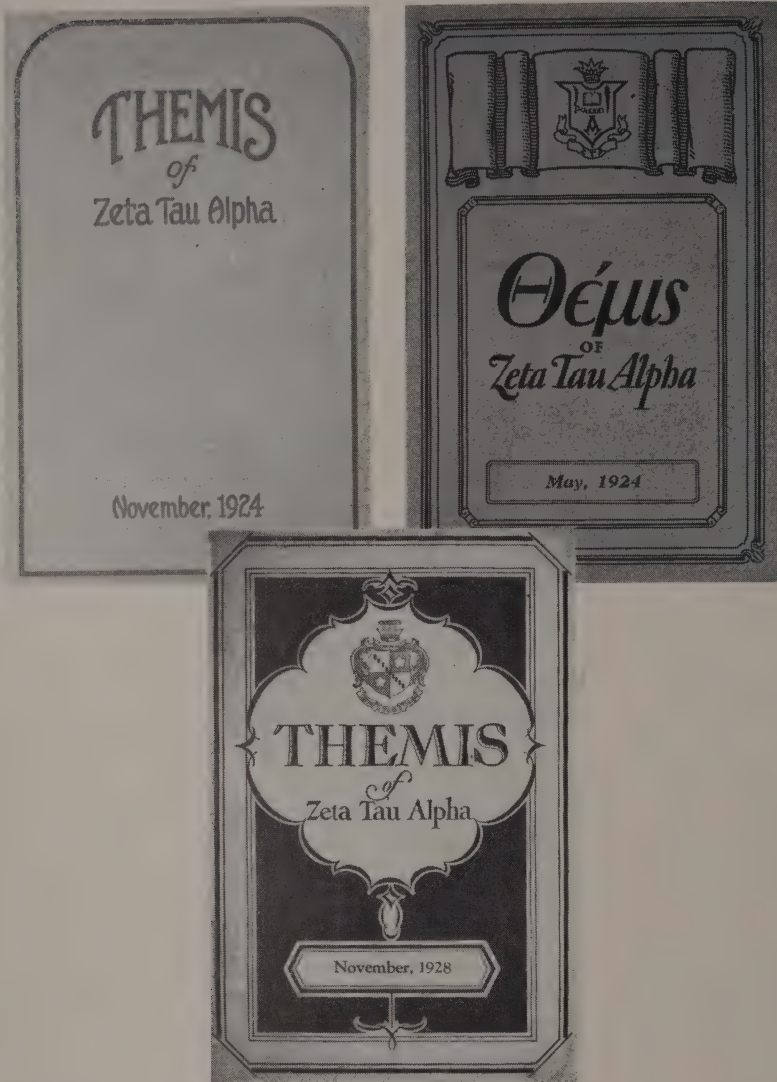
Surveying the development of the ensuing eventful years, Adelaide Hazel-tine (Jones) wrote an evaluating résumé in 1928. Excerpts are here quoted:

The history of *Themis* weaves on, each Editor leaving her contribution in the form of those issues that bear her name. Unusual material progress marked the next six years under the inspired leadership of Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Tau, who was appointed to complete the unexpired term of Abbie Graham in January, 1922. Two words suffice to describe this period, *Themis grew*.

The editor touched the heart-spring of the fraternity and expressed its pulsing life in the pages of *Themis*—expressed it so completely that the magazine sprang into the lime-light of fraternity publications. It carried the message of Zeta far beyond our borders, out into a Greek-letter world where proof of its approbation was confirmed again and again in quotations used in a long list of fraternity publications. Every issue became a sensitive finger feeling the Zeta pulse, translating it into words that produced works.

It is difficult to write a résumé of the publication which has both shaped and recorded Zeta's history in the years under consideration. This *Themis* has truthfully done. Through its columns it has held the interest of its four thousand readers.

A wealth of material has been presented in the addition of new departments. . . . Only



**THEMIS COVERS OF THE THIRD DECADE.** It is interesting to note that the 1924 cover in the right hand corner carried the old, soon-to-be-replaced coat of arms, while the 1928 cover displayed the new arms adopted the year before.

a few may be mentioned. . . . The "Achievement Section" (later titled "Interesting Zetas") heads the list. A "Here and There" section, a cross between an exchange section and a paragraph editorial innovation, supplied . . . a delightful, informal column. "Related to Zetas," edited by Ruth Finnicum, Psi, and "The Straw Club," edited by Marguerite Fisher, Alpha Beta, were others introduced the first year. As the titles indicate, the attention of the readers was directed within the fraternity, carrying out the Editor's plan of conveying more information to Zeta readers. . . .



"In November, 1923,<sup>30</sup> *Themis* presented an entirely changed appearance. The cover design was adapted from the prize drawing of Frances Ely, Alpha Gamma, winner of the *Themis* cover contest. Enlarged, Volume XXIII of the magazine became 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ " by 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ " in size. The type page became larger and the interior sections were completely rearranged.

"The Editor continued the plan of feature issues but introduced many new ones. Panhellenism and broad fraternity thought and knowledge (out-standing notes struck at this time) were reflected in the especially well-received March, 1924<sup>31</sup> Panhellenic issue. . . ."

A precedent (as well as a pioneering move in the Greek-letter magazine world) was established in the November, 1924<sup>32</sup> number, when chapter letters were omitted from the first number of the collegiate year. Grand Chapter agreed "that these letters<sup>33</sup> (previously carried in each issue) could be advantageously omitted from this number which came out too early for chapters to send information other than of an inactive summer season." Successful, the plan carried over into succeeding issues. Also used in 1924 was a new cover design in two tones of gray, submitted by Margaret Miller (Jacoby), Alpha Psi.

Of major importance was the memorable January, 1925, issue of 219 pages featuring the Founders' Reunion and historical findings in Virginia. While the number became a treasured one in the fraternity, "it was unexpected but delightful to find that other fraternity officers and readers were interested to the point of writing expressions about it, both to the Editor and in printed comments in their magazines."

This prefaced other unfolding chronicles of the emerging Zeta story as ensuing issues for a year or so charmed eager readers with a wealth of historical sketches and features. Changeless in value, the years have but enhanced the enduring qualities of this inspiring series, over which hung the aura of a nostalgic past, rose-tinted if not occasionally magnolia-scented.

Especially interesting were the editorials that still retained their full stature of power years afterwards. They were among the most quoted items.

A stated policy on advertisements reached far back through the years. "Advertisements," it said, "have never contributed [much] to the magazine's support because of the traditional policy against commercial advertisements<sup>34</sup> . . . ." Viewed realistically, actually very little was probably available, for commercial firms have never shown a vast enthusiasm for Greek-letter publications as an advertising medium, but in theory, advertising in the fraternity's official organ did not harmonize with the early-day concept of "dignity and conservatism." Besides, "since funds were sufficient, there was nothing to be gained. Further, the policy of Zeta Tau Alpha as well as the present editorial tendency is to adhere to the traditions that have built the fraternity of today, insofar as is possible under present-day conditions."

Reflecting on the magazine's financial status and circulation, the 1928 *History* recorded that

Conservatively speaking, the annual increase in subscribers was 700. And "while the publication cost of *Themis* runs into thousands of dollars yearly, since 1923 there has been a goodly surplus with which to publish the first (November) issue of the quarterly series. Through careful planning, the last few years have seen the surplus mount until *Themis* is not only prepared for expected publication demands but is secured by this 'comfortably fixed' position of successful middle age."

This commentary was important because this was the last pre-budget decade. *Themis* then had its own *Themis* Current Fund, with revenue from specified sources, but the fraternity was not yet operating on the budget system.

*Themis* continued to translate into the printed page the well-defined plan of the Editor, whose aspiration for the magazine was to build as well as to inform. Her summation was carried in the 1928 *History*:

The ideal *Themis*, and the one toward which I have worked, is a magazine that in some measure meets the diversified needs of every member, both in the way of fraternity news and other cultural aspects. We want a *Themis* that presents fraternity articles of a broad range; a *Themis* that has at least a small share in the spiritual development of the individual, made possible by editorials or articles that carry home the practicability and worthwhileness of the fraternity ideals; a *Themis* that meets practical needs in the inclusion of vocational articles; a *Themis* that sends its message to the fraternity but is aware of the world about it. On the predominating side of fraternity news there is room for discussion, articles on all phases of the present-day complicated organizational life with its vast holdings in the way of property, philanthropies and diversified interests. It is *Themis'* hope to bring something good, something interesting, to every Zeta.

While the *status quo* was deemed eminently satisfactory, a "completely transformed" May issue appeared before the 1928 convention. That number completed Volume XXVI and it proudly observed the twenty-fifth anniversary of the magazine "which had been published continuously since 1903, with no issues missing." Thus, although the former *Themis* was highly regarded and much loved, the Editor expressed the belief that "the time has come for the magazine to advance through the adoption of a new (and improved) format," which included, among other things, the use of "two-column style for the first time"—an advance in professional appearance. Too, "the format will give us a more compact magazine, and may . . . in the long run be cheaper." Good management, rather than financial concern, dictated the latter reference. The fraternity's funds enjoyed excellent condition.

The blue cover in which the transformed issue appeared was also "quite generally liked."

Many goals had been reached. Success had attended the aspired-to aim of "building both within the fraternity and without." The magazine, without question, had attained its "real place in the sun." And, like a theme song that augmented this steady resolve "to build," ran the constantly accented future-

gazing faith and admonition that "*Themis* is standing on the threshold of a new era, one fraught with marvelous possibilities."

Now a larger magazine in over-all size as well as in number of pages, this decade saw *Themis* advance to the intriguingly thick, regularly appearing issues<sup>35</sup> that more often than not contained over two hundred picture-studded, feature-packed pages.

In this full glow of achievement and position, *Themis* stepped across the threshold of Zeta's third decade.

**THE HISTORY OF ZETA TAU ALPHA**, 1898-1928, Volume I, by Shirley Kreasan Krieg. Published by the Fraternity.

Warmly received by reviewers from both the Greek and literary worlds, Volume I of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha* appeared early in 1928. Perhaps their words and estimates are the volume's best presentation.

Reading the book as it came off the press, Margaret Killen Banta's<sup>36</sup> original intention of a quick scanning faded when, "having once lifted the blue and gold cover . . . [she] found enough fascinating things to obliterate the pressure of any domestic duties . . ."

After sketching the contents, she concluded: "It is informal, yet dignified. It has plenty of human interest and a great deal of valuable history. Through the entire volume I can sense the individuality . . . of the author—every chapter makes me feel more strongly the depth and value of her research work."

The publication of this first *History* was hailed as a fitting commemoration of the fraternity's thirtieth anniversary. Its 518 pages held "the first complete printed account of the fraternity's growth from 1898 to 1928, and of the persons who built it." In addition to the "factors contributing to that development, it contained many interesting historical facts never before published."

Bound in a beautiful shade of blue, the book was stamped in gold. Its size was 6 3/4" by 9 3/4". In comprehensive fashion the fifteen chapters covered: (1) Antebellum Education for Women; (2) Women's Fraternities in the South—The Farmville Four; (3) The State Female Normal School; (4) Founding and Early Days; (5) Conventions and Grand Chapter Meetings; (6) Expansion and Development; (7) Organization and Government; (8) Insignia and Heraldry; (9) The Mythology of *Themis*; (10) Publications; (11) ZTA in NPC; (12) The Homes of Zeta Tau Alpha; (13) Histories of the Founders; (14) The Official Family, (15) Mothers and Daughters.

Reviewing the new *History* in that year's March issue of *Themis*, Mildred Spragg (Boyd) told the waiting Zeta world that

At last, after years of work, our new *History* is ready. After several years of intensive research through all parts of the country, through an exhaustive search of the files of Grand Chapter, old chapter files, the private collections of individuals and interviews with the Founders, and other builders, Shirley Krieg has written the story of our fraternity. . . .



The new *History* is an excellent bit of writing, even when judged from a critical, non-Zeta viewpoint. It has a smooth flowing rhythm that carries the readers along with increasing interest from chapter to chapter, and the author has painted in the background of each period in such clear words that the events of those times stand out with increased color and brilliancy because of the vivid setting.

The material . . . used, including the contributions made . . . by groups and individuals, has been thoroughly authenticated, another mark of the excellence of the work. Many biographers have been forced to retract and reshape their work. Shirley Krieg's will stand through the years as the first completely unified, authentic compilation of the events and personages of the past thirty years of Zeta Tau Alpha.

Among the many important new facts revealed is that the date of our founding is October 15, 1898, rather than October 25 as the fraternity has believed for years. The original minute book of the first Alpha secretary as well as the 1899 yearbook of the Farmville Normal School are conclusive evidence of this.

Calculating the inestimable long-time value of the volume, George Banta, Sr., past Phi Delta Theta president and foremost Greek authority of the day said, in his review for *Banta's Greek Exchange*:

Zeta Tau Alpha has most wisely gathered the facts of her history while practically everything in that history is within the memory of the living Founders and their associates who launched the sorority. Each step of the history is known to some living member with the result that the sorority starts its second thirty years with all its story a matter of record. All who know the leaders of the sorority world know Shirley Kreasan Krieg and have known her executive, as well as her literary, ability as the Editor of *Themis*.

It is not so easy a thing, if one will reflect, to write a recent history and give it any of the glamour that inevitably attaches itself to the record of a fraternity of age and long standing. This, I think, is because the older organization finds many of its records have vanished completely while even the stories of the various steps of its developments are not always properly connected one with another. This allows a certain field for speculation and for legitimate play of the imagination. And yet, the author has given her book something of this glamour despite the fact that she has always known facts with which to deal. The book itself is an accurate and exceedingly well-compiled story of the development of ZTA from its beginning. The sorority is of southern birth and the story of the development of educational facilities for women, especially in the South, is exceedingly interesting. There is evidence of much research work in collecting the facts that are contained in the earlier chapters.

The book under review covers 518 pages. In addition to the usual features common to all Greek-letter societies, it presents one which is so developed beyond the ordinary treatment as to be almost a new thing in the field of fraternities. This is the one hundred pages devoted to "Our Official Family." In this long chapter is given a sketch of every person who has held office of a national sort. The great value of this method of treatment of the subject will be more apparent as the years pass.

We can find no peg upon which to hang criticism.

Mrs. Krieg takes her place among the successful fraternity historians of which there are so few in the Greek world.

**THE LINK:** Sparked by the impetus of 1918, the Secret Letter entered the third decade still edited by Julia Coe Rose, National Inspector, and distributed via the courtesy of the Decatur (Illinois) Alumnæ's mimeographing and mail-

ing. That arrangement continued until Mrs. Rose left office in 1919.<sup>37</sup> Although the Tau Zetas were asked to continue in 1920, "various changes in residence of the heretofore most active members resulted in the publication finding lodgment in the newly opened Central Office, which proved to be the logical and natural center from which to issue it." Thereafter, the Grand Secretary was in charge. At last it had found a home. And it was soon to be given an official name.

Up to this time the unanchored publication had never been officially named. Simply known as the Secret Letter, or S. L., the line of least resistance seemed to have dictated that rather unimaginative title. But by 1923 it was "firmly established as a necessary adjunct in the administration of fraternity affairs," fulfilling its "purpose of providing a suitable medium for informing the chapters of national affairs, from routine details to matters of more general interest."

Still issued from Central Office after the 1923 convention, it was under the supervision of the new Secretary-Treasurer. Then, following a survey of Grand Chapter, the long-unnamed publication was christened *The Link*. In 1926, convention sanctioned the name and made its editing one of the duties devolving upon Central Office.

*The Link* was a monthly publication in 1928.

A MANUAL, "issued by Central Office," was a printed, gray-backed publication of August, 1925.

THE SONGBOOK: Long anticipated, the second songbook appeared in the summer of 1922. Music was printed for the first time. Bound in turquoise blue cloth, the coat of arms was embossed in silver in the left-hand corner; the Greek initials, ZTA, were in the right. It was a large book, 9 by 12 inches in size and it contained seventy-two songs, thirty-one of which had Zeta-composed, original music. Olga Smith, Alpha Iota, designed the cover. It was dedicated to Dr. Hopkins.

When the 1920 Grand Chapter meeting entrusted the songbook to Sigma chapter (whose singing had so impressed the National Inspector), Sigma in turn appointed Miriam Keast (Brown) to head the committee. She was assisted by Maysie Hughes (Smith) and Ruth Mack (Diehl). Greta Rueckert, Alpha Eta, took care of the business<sup>38</sup> details in Cincinnati, where the book was published.

This important contribution to Zeta music was enthusiastically received. Indeed, the fraternity was so gratified to have the songbook that the 1923 convention made Mrs. Brown a committee of one to collect songs and arrange for another edition. In 1924, future publication was announced; by 1925 songs were being received and in 1926 much interest was aroused by the Blue Ridge convention song contest which Alpha Tau won. The contest for a national

anthem was won<sup>39</sup> by Margaret Palmer (Phelps), Mu, for her "Anthem to Zeta Tau Alpha," and following the 1926 announcement "songs came in so rapidly that the music editor was overwhelmed with manuscripts." Then the 1926 Grand Chapter meeting decided against reprinting this songbook, recommending instead the publication of a new one, containing original words and music.

When the third songbook appeared in the fall of 1927 *Themis* said, "At last we have it—the first wholly original songbook . . . the first of its kind in the fraternity world."

And so it was—a songbook that contained only original songs. Bound in steel gray cloth and embossed with the coat of arms in blue, the book, which was dedicated to the Founders, was smaller in size than its 1922 predecessor. The size reduction was chiefly for convenience in handling. A short foreword recognized Mrs. Brown's principal assistants—Grace Ryan (Raub), Ruth Mack (Diehl) and Grace Keast (Lidell), all of Sigma.

This new edition of all-original "Songs of Zeta Tau Alpha" contained eighty songs, all of them composed by Zetas. They were classified into nine sections: first, the prize anthems; second, fraternity; third, loyalty; fourth, symbols; fifth, toasts; sixth, alumnæ music; seventh, music and songs for Zeta dances, waltzes, blues, memories; eighth, Zeta sweetheart songs; ninth, songs for special occasions, such as rushing, pledging, initiation, installation, Founders' Day and serenades.

Margret Bostic (Alcott), Sigma, was the songbook's business manager, and it was published and copyrighted by the Sigma Alumnæ Association. Its financing was similar to that of the second songbook.

An important contribution to the fraternity's music, this invaluable book was to be used for many years.

**THE CHAIN:** High in the Colorado Rockies, in the rustic setting of Association Camp, *The Chain* made its début, at the 1923 convention. Undeterred by the "lack of printing facilities at the remote mountain location," the new publication bowed to the Zeta world *via* a mimeograph that sometimes blurred, but which turned out "a modest four-page periodical" that delighted absent subscribers and eager on-the-grounds readers. On its initial appearance it had "583 paid subscribers." An efficient business staff mailed the out-going papers, while "heralds delivered" the four issues to those at the camp.

This first convention paper "made no pretensions to external beauty, but it contained everything from advertisements to humor," and it was a "smashing financial success,"<sup>40</sup> as well as an editorial achievement in condensed writing. The stock, ingeniously prepared in advance, with heading and advertisements printed, was shipped to Colorado all ready for use.

Introduced and edited by the Editor of *Themis*, *The Chain's* first editorial staff that coped with the rustic setting handicaps consisted of: Shirley Kreasan



Krieg (Strout), editor-in-chief; Dorothy Davidson (Smith), Psi; Elizabeth Wilson (Wade), Zeta; Lafrances Lewis (Campbell), Delta, reporters. A. Louise Gale (Haines), Rho, business manager, was assisted by members of Rho and the Boston Alumnæ chapter.

With the 1923 venture such a success, *The Chain's* continuation was a foregone conclusion, and "plans proceeded along more ambitious lines." The 1926 product was a "daily publication,"<sup>41</sup> but again it was mimeographed because of another mountain site—this time in the Blue Ridge Mountains. "News, the high spots of each day's happenings, feature stories and interviews made up the contents." Again, "the paper was a success from all standpoints." There were 656 subscriptions. Two hundred that arrived too late had to be turned back. The net profit was "nearly \$250."

Making its first printed appearance at the 1928 convention, *The Chain* had to overcome handicaps as heavy as mountain settings, but overcome they were and the first printed edition emerged from a secluded location in the fastness of the Muskoka Lake district of northern Ontario. The village printer was a three hours' boat trip away and the paper had to go without benefit of proofreading (with hilarious and exasperating results at times), but, withal, the paper came out and it *was* printed.

"We, the staff of *The Chain*,"<sup>42</sup> Mildred Spragg (Boyd) reported in *Themis*, were just as proud of its professional, printed appearance . . . as a mother is of her daughter's first grown-up dress. How very different from the mimeographed copies of 1923 and 1926! And such a task as it was—but none of us would have missed working on *The Chain* for an oil well in Texas.

Because of the professional requirements this year's staff was a smaller one. . . . The daily rush to make the boat that carried the copy to the little Huntsville printing shop was only a little less exciting than the deadline dash of a newspaper's early edition. But the excitement of getting copy ready was as nothing compared to the thrill of receiving the copies. . . . It was a mighty good paper—those four editions.

Again a success, *The Chain* boasted 610 subscribers, "about one-third of whom were at convention." And despite "the greatly increased costs that naturally came with printing . . . a sum in excess of \$200 was cleared for the *Themis* Current Fund." With admirable *esprit de corps* they proudly commented that "*The Chain* is one of the convention publications that make a profit; a source of pride to the entire staff."<sup>43</sup>

For *The Chain*, the decade ended in a blaze of glory.

**DIRECTORIES:** Feeling that her duties were "much lighter than those of the . . . Grand Secretary," the 1919 convention transferred the compilation of the directory to the Grand Vice-President. So, before the 1923 meeting, Mary Poggi (Richley) issued the fraternity's fourth directory. Bound in gray, with the coat of arms on the cover, it was in a handy book-size. Especially valuable in that pre-*History* interval was the compiler's preface which contained brief facts

about the fraternity and the Founders, founding and incorporation dates, and general information ranging from facts about *Themis* to a statement of the fraternity's conservative extension policy. Listed were thirty-six college chapters, six inactive chapters (not including Original Beta) and twenty-eight city alumnae chapters. The table of contents gave the chapter roll. The three previously used listings were repeated. By this time twenty-three Zetas had taken up foreign residence, with four in United States territories and dependencies. Forty-seven had passed on.

The fifth directory, another gray bound book, appeared in the summer of 1926—again the work of Mary Poggi Richley. It carried a preface by the Vice-President, a table of contents and general information. In addition to the names and addresses of Grand Chapter members, the province presidents were listed for the first time. Of the statistical additions Mrs. Richley said:

The style of the directory is similar to the 1923 edition. Chapter lists are by complete maiden name, those married have "m" instead of "Mrs." and the initial and name of the husband follow. Degrees, years of graduation, national honorary and professional fraternities are given.

Beta Epsilon ended the college chapter roll. The inactive list included Original Beta, making a correct total of seven. Forty-two Zetas lived out of the country, Canada being first in representation, Mexico, second, and China, third.

This decade, the only one in which the Vice-President was ever the official cataloguer, was also the last one in which that officer handled the directory. "With all cards concentrated in Central Office," that work was transferred to the Secretary-Treasurer in 1926, and instead of appearing every three years, the directory was thereafter scheduled for publication every four years.

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS:** Since the fraternity's constitution and by-laws was not a secret document and it was frequently requested by, and shown to, non-members, its inclusion in the same book with the completely secret services was found to be impractical. Thus, when new copies were printed after the 1919 convention they were separated. In fact, that conclave stipulated that "the initiation service . . . should be typewritten." The next (fifth) edition, containing the completely rewritten constitution following the Blue Ridge convention, appeared in 1926. Both were gray, but the fourth edition was the last to be bound in leather.

Reflecting on the constitution's role, the 1928 *History* said:

Each revision and printing gave evidence through the years of additions and provisions made necessary by the growth and advancement of the fraternity. Each edition represents, in some measure, some forward step, keeping apace of the times. Seldom do we think of them as milestones along the path of progress, but, although generally unheralded, they nevertheless mark distinct periods of advancement.

**THE COOKBOOK:** "The world must eat and you must have the new Zeta Tau Alpha Cookbook," declared a review in the November, 1925, *Themis*.

Published "in the interests of Alpha Phi's building fund,<sup>44</sup> the summer appearance of the 266-page book represented months of hard work on the part of a "diligent, persevering committee of Evanston alumnæ," consisting of Ruth Hodgson (Lang), Alpha Phi, chairman, assisted by Joy Cowen (Sahli), Tau, Esther Carlson (Evans), Alpha Phi, and Vyrna V. Welch, 1915 Grand Chapter initiate. Margaret Briggs (DeGarmo), Alpha Phi, was also a faithful helper.

Request letters for favorite recipes, especially sectional favorites, brought recipes galore from the chapters and individuals. Every recipe was tested. Appreciation was later expressed "to the Zeta husbands upon whom they were tried." The "determined little group" resourcefully overcame financing problems. The result was an attractive, useful collection of recipes bound in a gray-backed book, with the title page outlined in turquoise blue. A foreign cookery section was the compilers' special pride.

Margaret DeGarmo accepted \$1.50 prepaid orders, *Themis* carried regular advertisements, cookbook sales became an Alpha Phi pledge project, and the books sold so well that the November, 1928, *Themis* announced "a second edition (a gray and blue oilcloth-bound book), "even better than the first. Corrections have been made and two features added: One on electrical refrigeration with accompanying recipes and a collection of tempting appetizers, canapes, and hors d'oeuvres. The cookbook has been a paying proposition in more ways than one," the delighted committee wrote, and it was the culinary mainstay of more than one home. When the supply of this edition was exhausted, it was not reprinted, later-day printing costs being prohibitive.

### *Endowment and Loan Funds*

THE THEMIS ENDOWMENT FUND: Epochal in the life and future of the magazine as well as that of the fraternity was the establishment of this first endowment fund. The Themis Endowment Fund was automatically created under the terms of the Themis Life Subscription Plan,<sup>45</sup> designed to guarantee and protect the future of the magazine through the establishment of a fund solely its own. The provisions, of course, specifically designated that interest from the fund was to help defray the publication costs of *Themis*.

"The adoption, by the Colorado convention, of this permanent endowment fund made every initiate thereafter a life subscriber to the magazine," said the 1923 announcement. "With one stroke it assured the financial future of *Themis* and solved the life subscription problem . . . [and] it provided each member with a lifelong source of communication with the fraternity."

The immediate building up of the new endowment fund<sup>46</sup> as called for in the plan, included assessing each college member ten dollars the following term, with that amount added to the initiation fee thereafter. There were no installment payments. The initial step was accomplished in good time.

Also, automatically created by the terms of the Themis Life Subscription



Plan were the Themis Endowment Trustees—three “persons of business experience and absolute reliance,” preferably “independent of any financial organization.” The investment of the fund was their responsibility. Rules prescribed the types of investment.

Although much was expected of this new fund, it exceeded expectations. From June, 1923, to June, 1926,<sup>47</sup> \$15,899.10 was realized from the first general assessment, the allotted portions of initiation fees and alumnæ subscriptions. It was a matter of pride that \$1,535 came from voluntary alumnæ subscriptions. By the end of the 1927 college year, there was \$20,265.87 in the fund, which included the amount available for (lending to) the House Loan Fund.

The 1912-established SCHOLARSHIP LOAN FUND was continued. Calls for loans increased. At the end of 1926, sixty-six girls had used the fund. Five were non-Zetas. Amounts ranging from \$25 to \$1,500 were lent by the Finance Committee. Then, “since the demands were becoming heavier yearly . . . upon recommendation of the 1926 convention’s audit and finance committee, new procedures were adopted.” Still available to non-Zetas, seniors and juniors were given loan preference (in the order named), “other worthy applicants” coming next. The rate of interest in 1926<sup>48</sup> was four per cent; the maximum loan was \$500. Interest was reduced to three per cent in 1928.

Zeta’s first approach to a HOUSE LOAN FUND came when recommendation was made to the 1926 convention that “one third of the Themis Endowment Fund be used as a loan fund for the building of chapter houses; the Themis Endowment Fund Trustees and the House Advisory Committee to make decisions in regard to the amount of loans and the rate of interest.” Convention ratified the motion.<sup>49</sup>

It had taken a long time to get that far.

As late as 1920 Grand Chapter had gone on record as not favoring chapter houses, but the establishment of a national building fund was recommended by four sources<sup>50</sup> at the next (1923) convention. Hotly debated, the motion was lost.

Chapter opposition stemmed from the fact that previously presented plans “called for raising the initial sum by required contributions from the chapters themselves.” That sounded painful. “A few groups already had houses.” Others . . . “engaged in building up house funds” felt unable to contribute toward the launching of a national building fund when they had need of the money locally. Others lived where neither houses nor lodges were permitted. The latter notably lacked enthusiasm. It was a stalemate.

Then the idea was conceived of investing a designated portion of the Themis Endowment Fund in Zeta houses at approximately the same rate of interest that good securities would yield. The chapters would get their needed financial assistance; the magazine would still “derive its necessary interest.” A

mutual assistance arrangement, as it were, and one, most importantly, that involved no initial chapter outlay. In later years, this inevitably looked like a back-door approach to the maneuvering of a building fund. If it was, it worked. In time, of course, the fund became an independent one, having no relation to the Themis Endowment Fund, and the real-estate-chapter-house problems that faced the Greek world in the coming depression days revealed the elements of risk involved in this 1926 arrangement; but it was a start, and a building fund for Zeta Tau Alpha was at last launched.<sup>51</sup> The plan continued during the years left in the decade.

**THE HOPKINS FUND:** The only stipulation attached to the 1923 convention's \$3,000 gift to Dr. Hopkins, in appreciation of her twelve years in the presidency (1908-1920), was that the altruistic project selected should bear her name. Its choice was left to her. Fortunately invested, the interest on the sum presented on June 4, 1924<sup>52</sup> had increased the principal so rapidly that it was decided to let the fund build up. The awarding of graduate scholarships (Dr. Hopkins' choice by 1926) was to start when the interest was sufficient to support them, for "in order to make the Hopkins graduate scholarships a permanent project," only the interest was to be used. The fund's "board of directors" as recorded in 1928<sup>53</sup> was composed of Dr. Hopkins and the Finance Committee. In 1928 "the Hopkins Fund was constitutionally added to the fraternity's funds, and its status was defined."

**THE MAUD JONES HORNER SCHOLARSHIP GIFT:** In the Maud Jones Horner Scholarship Gift established at the Canadian convention, interested Zetas saw the fulfillment of a long-time dream to place a "suitable and appropriate memorial at the Virginia State Teacher's College" (later Longwood College). It honored the college at which the fraternity was founded and was dedicated to the memory of the first Grand President.

Said *Themis*, "This \$100 scholarship (which was taken from the National Scholarship Loan Fund) was earmarked for a student at Farmville, who was not obligated to repay it unless she so desired." When possible it was hoped that preference would be given to a student from Buckingham County, in which Maud Jones lived as a girl.

In a cordial letter of appreciation, Dr. J. L. Jarman, president of the college, accepted the scholarship.<sup>54</sup> It was thereafter listed in the college catalogue. At that time it was administered by the Virginia Normal League, with Miss Minnie V. Rice—a well-loved teacher at the college—handling it.

### *Philanthropy*

The long-anticipated national philanthropy took form at the Bigwin Inn convention when it was decided to locate Zeta Tau Alpha's altruistic work in

Curran Valley, Smyth County, Virginia—"an almost forgotten section living unto itself in a primitive way." Chosen from several projects under consideration, this field "was found to offer unlimited possibilities for constructive assistance to a worthy but backward people of purest Anglo-Saxon blood, whom time and progress have passed by. This decision, making possible immediate and concerted action, brought to the threshold of unfoldment one of Zeta Tau Alpha's dreams—to help those less fortunate, and, most important of all, to teach them to help themselves." Honoring the Founders and the state of Virginia, the "mountain work" was dedicated to the former.

Frances Yancey Smith, chairman of the committee to report on a suitable philanthropy, presented the project to convention.

There was no delay in getting the mountain work started.<sup>55</sup>

In December, 1928, as the decade was ending, Zeta's first nurse was sent into Curran Valley, during an influenza epidemic . . . a time of great need for the mountain folk. Her headquarters—Zeta's first Health Center in the mountains—was a little white cottage.

Thus the work began. The real story, though, lay in the coming decade.

### *National Panhellenic Congress*

By authority of the 1911 Congress, the government of N.P.C. was placed in the hands of an executive committee of three. The order in which the officers were to be chosen was specified as follows:

The delegate from the fraternity calling the Congress shall act as chairman of the same, and the delegate from the fraternity next in order shall act as secretary of the Congress. The treasurer shall be the delegate whose fraternity is next on the list after that of the secretary's. The executive committee shall consist of the secretary of the last Congress as chairman, the secretary of the next Congress and the treasurer.

The treasurership fell to Zeta in 1919. At that meeting Dr. Hopkins spoke on "The Opportunities in Social Service." Evelyn Calicutt, National Inspector, also attended. Zeta's delegate in 1921 was the President.

Alpha Burkart Wettach, Shirley Krieg (Strout)<sup>56</sup> and Marion Jellicorse (de Roos), were the other Zeta officers present at the 1923 Boston Congress, in addition to Dr. Hopkins, when Zeta Tau Alpha succeeded to the office of chairman.

As secretary, Dr. Hopkins sent a telegram of greeting to Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, the first fraternity woman to preside over the White House, and she also addressed the Congress on the subject of "Positive Health." Introduced at the final banquet, she made "a graceful, appropriate speech."

As chairman, Dr. Hopkins was the presiding officer of the next Congress held in January, 1926, in Dallas, Texas, the first one ever held in the Southwest. The official bulletin said:

The business of the nineteenth Congress was ably handled by its efficient chairman,



Dr. Hopkins. At the opening business session, the Dallas Panhellenic Association presented a basket of flowers to the delegates with words of welcome to N.P.C. and of great appreciation of Dr. Hopkins, not only as a Greek-letter woman but also as a citizen of high standing in her community, by reason of her untiring devotion to her profession.

The chairman was toastmistress at the luncheon given by the Fort Worth Panhellenic Association, but "the crowning event was the banquet Friday night at which about one thousand fraternity men and women (this was the first time that men had been admitted) met in the largest Panhellenic assemblage," thus far recorded. "Rose Nelson Hughes, Zeta Tau Alpha . . . made a charming toastmistress, and Dr. Hopkins was on the speaking program." Continuing, a Congress writer declared that, "graciously presiding, Dr. May Agness Hopkins, Zeta Tau Alpha, impressed all with her breadth of wisdom and depth of service which shine through her vibrant fineness and lend strength to her southern charm."

Ample indeed was the Zeta justification for feeling that the banquet "had a Zeta atmosphere," for in addition to official prominence, Zeta Tau Alpha had more members present than any other fraternity. Also attending the Congress was the President, Alpha Burkart Wettach. A past Inspector, Evelyn Callicutt, attended the banquet, and Bertha Cruse (Gardner), Zeta province president, sat in on the Editors' Conference.

Under the system of rotation it would be many years before Zeta would again hold the chairmanship. For that reason the 1926 Congress has been given more mention than is usual in these pages.

When N.P.C. met again in Boston, in February, 1928, the Grand President, Catharine Binger (Beverley), was the official delegate, with the Editor-Historian, Shirley Krieg (Strout), as the alternate delegate. Also registered was Daisy Bashford (Hilton), president of Gamma province.

### *Customs, Traditions, and Policies*

Technically—or correctly—a tradition may be "a custom so long continued that it has almost the force of law," but Zeta's annual Founders' Day Proclamation, issued by the President, was a thought-out and planned tradition that was so named from the start. There is no other word for it, for "tradition" was the intention of the 1926 Grand Chapter meeting when it decreed that henceforth such a proclamation should be issued on the first day of October. Also dating from 1926, the Founders' Day service became an established tradition in this decade.

The tradition of chapters sending greetings to new chapters at the time of installation, with members and pledges wearing ribbons under their pins, also dated from this meeting. Prior to the 1928 convention "custom and tradition prohibited the reproduction of the badge for any use whatsoever, but after serious consideration, and solely as a concession to prevalent campus custom,

a reproduction was permitted for use in annual publications or yearbooks. But nowhere else."

While "national customs for mourning" were officially established in 1928, the 1926 Grand Chapter meeting had previously announced that "upon the death of a Zeta, members of her chapter are to wear crêpe under their pins for three days." This was a revival, or reiteration, of an early-day policy, for the Founders, in the first hand-written constitution, set forth definite mourning observances.

Convention's traditional memorial service dates from the Blue Ridge conclave.

The fraternity again went on record as discountenancing any form of rough or mock initiation, to which it had been traditionally opposed for years.

Reversing an old and much-reiterated policy that seemed no longer practical in the face of changing trends and the policies of contemporaries, a complete re-evaluation was gradually made of the question of honorary members.

Provision for extending honorary membership to faculty members not eligible for regular initiation was made at the 1926 convention—the first time in Zeta's history that such initiation was sanctioned. Further liberalization at the next convention broadened the qualification category considerably, stressing desirability and chapter interest. However, the unanimous recommendation of the college chapter and the unanimous vote of Grand Chapter were necessary.

### *Awards*

Thus far there had been relatively few convention awards, the same 1926 Grand Chapter meeting initiating two: a scholarship cup to be presented to the chapter having the highest scholastic average in the fraternity, and a cup to be awarded "to the chapter winning the singing contest." Then, "to stimulate high scholarship" and recognize individual scholastic achievement, the 1927 Grand Chapter meeting announced the annual award of "a specially designed medallion to the individual member whose scholastic average is first in the fraternity." The National Scholarship Committee was to determine the recipient. The first awards were made at the 1928 convention.

**THE HONOR RING:** The presentation of honor rings continued to be a convention high light, but in 1926 the awarding of those rings was "placed on a standardized basis, following a point system." And they were to be presented to, rather than purchased by, the honoree. Two months after convention the thorough and fast-moving 1926 Grand Chapter meeting held in Richmond two months after the Blue Ridge conclave worked out that point system.

The following Zetas were awarded honor rings in this decade: 1919—Delta, Julia Coe (Rose); Zeta, Gertrude Jones (Harvard); Theta, Dorothy Miller (Cranston), Katherine Miller (Sheppard); Kappa, Mabel O'Connor (Lipscomb);

Mu, Gladys Ayland (Glade); Xi, Fanny Hunter (Taylor), Mary Chaffee (Riggins); Omicron, Irene Hartzog (Wright); Tau, Martha McIntosh (Morrison), Mary Ann Gillespie, Helen Miller (Gill), Joy Cowen (Sahli); Upsilon, Christine Bertholas (Olsen); Chi, Pearl Reed, Marjorie Duff (Rigg); Omega, Evelyn Callicutt, 1923—Theta, Ethel Charnock; Lambda, Abbie Graham; Xi, Mary Poggi (Richley); Rho, Louise Gale (Haines), Eva Mosher (Brown), Ethel Baird, Evelyn Taylor; Sigma, Miriam Keast (Brown); Tau, Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout); Chi, Helen M. Donaldson, Alpha Burkart (Wettach), Elizabeth Sloan (Grotefend); Alpha Beta, Nora Thompson, 1926—Beta, Bertha Cruse (Gardner); Zeta, Marion Jellicorse (de Roos); Theta, Iva Brashear; Sigma, Margret Bostic (Alcott), Grace Thorne (Kerns); Upsilon, Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), 1928—Mu-Psi, Bernice Kirkham (Terry); Mu-Alpha Psi, Adelaide Hazeltine (Jones); Rho, Daisy Bashford (Hilton); Upsilon, Adeline Scandrett; Alpha Beta, Anne Burkart.

## *To Virginia—For History*

### **The Founders' Reunion**

To Virginia for history—back to the state where nine girls, thoroughly Virginian in ancestry and training, had founded Zeta Tau Alpha! “That was my pilgrimage,” wrote the National Historian in *Themis*, when she gave the Zeta world a detailed account of the historic Founders' Reunion and her own history-research trip through Virginia and North Carolina. And a history-hungry membership read it with eagerness. It came about in this way—

“With the plan of the history decided upon and previously established with the Founders and early members,” the very real need of a first-hand knowledge of Virginia, our Founders and the background from which the fraternity came, became more and more apparent, not only to settle moot points, and discuss innumerable angles difficult to handle *via* correspondence but to gain the proper atmosphere and understanding that alone could lead to an accurate, sympathetic interpretation. For months of study and research had led to one inescapable truth, namely, that to know Zeta Tau Alpha, her origin and those who founded her, to understand the forces swirling around the little group in the nineties, one literally had to become steeped in the atmosphere that was Virginia, and that period in the South. For Zeta was Virginian by birth, by heritage and influence.

From this conviction evolved the first reunion<sup>57</sup> of the Founders in twenty-six years, arranged for November 15, 1924, at the famous Jefferson Hotel, in Richmond, Virginia, by invitation of the National Historian. Historic Richmond, the home of one of the Founders, was chosen as the most central meeting place. It became a reunion of historical importance and one greatly enhanced by the graciousness of the Richmond Alumnæ.





THE FOUNDERS IN 1924—AT THE RICHMOND REUNION. Left to right: Alice Grey Welsh, Alice Bland Coleman, Mary Campbell Jones Batte, Helen M. Crafford, Ruby Leigh Ongain, and Della Lewis Hundley. Seated: Ethel Coleman VanName and Frances Yancey Smith.

From their Virginia homes came the eight who were being called together again, with happiness in their hearts at the prospect of once more establishing contact<sup>58</sup> with the fraternity they founded, and of seeing loved confreres from whom they had been long separated. They were all there: Frances Yancey Smith, from Charlotte Court House; Alice Bland Coleman, from "Greenwich," Sassafras, Gloucester County; Ethel Coleman Van Name, from West Point; Helen Crafford, from Lee Hall; Della Lewis Hundley, from Schoolfield; Mary Jones Batte, from Norfolk and Alice Welsh, of Richmond.

Friday afternoon they began arriving at the Jefferson and Friday evening they and their Historian-hostess were dinner guests of the Richmond Alumnæ. Elizabeth Moon, Alpha Lambda (whose uncle, Frank C. Moon, secured Zeta's charter from the state of Virginia), and Helen Magley, Alpha Eta, acted as hostesses with Alice Welsh, who was in charge of local arrangements.

Saturday morning the remaining Founders arrived—"greeting each other with exclamations of delight." Members of the Richmond Alumnæ called and the morning was spent in informal conversation.

The luncheon at the Hermitage Country Club was cancelled because of a golf tournament and the afternoon's planned historical round table at the hotel. So the Founders lunched with the Historian "who had come all the way from Canada to be with them, and at an early hour they took possession of the hotel's library" for the long-looked-forward-to session of remembering—for the *History*.

The Zeta story—the background—the aims—the beliefs—the intentions—all unfolded. "There, while a downpour of rain pattered against the windows they were cozy and detached from the outside as they sat around a big mahogany table and called back the days of Zeta's founding." What was their original concept of that—how did such and such a thing happen—what did they have in mind on this point? Questions. Answers. Clarifications. Gentle expositions. Back to fundamentals. Back to original principles.

By following a carefully pre-arranged plan a great deal of historical territory was covered. Many points were clarified. Priceless facts heretofore obscured or unknown were unearthed and revealed. Inclusive in their coverage, the intent little conference covered "a wide range and brought to light many facts necessary and important to the *History*," *Themis* said. "Thus did we get back to the early groundwork upon which the fraternity was founded." And most importantly, "the very foundation from which the *History* will be written was laid that day."

The day ended with a delightful supper party at the home of Mrs. W. Robertson Beverley (Catharine Bingler), Delta, in company with the Richmond Zetas. After Mrs. Beverley's greeting, the National Historian read a sheaf of messages from chapters and individual Zetas all over the country. Then "each Founder was presented with a recognition pin, a memento of the occasion from Grand Chapter."



From then on until the last Founder left on Sunday each moment was spent in reminiscence. In writing her appreciation "for the happy hours in Richmond and for the recalling of happy days, when ideals were in the forming," Della Lewis Hundley expressed the thought of the others when she said: "This group reunion brought very forcibly to my mind the realization that dreams are, in-



THE GRAVE OF MAUD JONES HORNER, 1880-1920, FIRST GRAND PRESIDENT OF ZETA TAU ALPHA. "On Saturday morning, November 29, 1924, the above floral design of solid white, bearing the letters ZTA set out in darker flowers, was placed on the grave of Maud Jones Horner in Henderson, North Carolina, by the National Historian . . . who paid this tribute . . . in the name of the national fraternity."—*Themis*, January, 1925

deed, worth while when they come true, as have those girlish dreams of long ago."

Afterwards, Ethel Van Name<sup>59</sup> reflected on "how we were carried back to school days as we tried to supply all the information desired about the founding of Zeta Tau Alpha, in answer to the Historian's very significant questioning." And to Alpha's beloved Cammie, "As we were led step by step back to the beginning of Zeta's existence, it was gratifying to find that there was burning in each Founder's heart the same enthusiasm, high ideals and love as when we first banded together."



From Richmond the Historian went to Farmville where, as the guest of Clair Bugg, she met other early Alpha members, saw members of Maud Jones's family and visited the mother college of the fraternity. Especially valuable was the conference with the Reverend Plummer Jones, in New Canton. Then finally, the last lap of the journey was to Henderson, North Carolina, where, in the name of the fraternity, a floral piece was placed on the grave of the first Grand President, Maud Jones Horner.

In Henderson, Mr. Horner contributed a treasure-trove of correspondence, mementoes and items that can never be duplicated. Carefully going through Maud's treasured keepsakes, he had found and set aside, for just such a time as this, many things associated with her college days and the fraternity. "I was constrained to keep them," he explained, "for I knew that some day Maud's fraternity would want them for just such a purpose as yours, and now I am glad to give them to you . . . they belong to her fraternity."

Mr. Horner also remembered vividly that his first gift to the girl who became his wife was her Zeta pin. "When I asked her what she would rather have above everything else in the world, she replied that she wanted a Zeta Tau Alpha pin," he recalled, in telling of Maud's great love for her fraternity. At another time; when she was very worried about the young fraternity's finances she asked him if he would "give her one hundred dollars and not ask what it was for." He never asked, but he knew that she sent the money to tide over some bad financial time in those early days. "Today," wrote the Historian, "the memory is sweet of that money sent to help Maud's fraternity."

Thus November, 1924, saw the Founders "united again for the first time since school days. . .," saw them once more integrated into the national picture, and saw laid the sure foundation and true basis for the presentation of the Zeta Tau Alpha story that was to give each Zeta her proud heritage. And generous gifts and contributions had greatly enriched the by-now-expanding archives.

### *Mothers and Daughters*

The first two decades inscribed the names of the mothers on the membership roll. The third welcomed their daughters—the first second-generation Zetas.

Bess Gardner, daughter of Elizabeth Fromme (Gardner), a charter member of Kappa chapter (1906), had the distinction of being the first Zeta daughter welcomed into the fraternity. Pledged by Kappa on September 23, 1924, she was initiated with her mother's pin, and her mother was present at the ceremony.

Frances Grayson, daughter of Sarah Bowen (Grayson), Beta, 1905, was pledged by Delta on March 5, 1925. She was the first Zeta daughter to be initiated, her initiation preceding Bess Gardner's by just a month.

Pledged by Delta in February, 1926, and initiated the following fall, Elizabeth McGehee, daughter of Mary Frayser (McGehee), was the first daughter of an Alpha member to become a Zeta. Her sister, Edna Earl, became a member of Omicron chapter.

Vinola Sala, pledged by Theta in the fall of 1925, was the third daughter to enter the fraternity. Her mother, Laura Ash (Sala), one of Theta's charter members, was the leader of the petitioning local group. Homer Sala (Sigma Nu), her father, helped the Bethany group secure its charter.

On April 25, 1926, Lucile Critz, daughter of Lucy Ethel Johnson (Critz), Epsilon, 1904, and Hazel McMillan, daughter of Hazel Archer Yates (McMillan), Epsilon, 1904, were initiated into their mothers' chapter—the first time that two daughters were initiated at the same time.

Intangibly, this very tangible second-generation indisputably signified Zeta's coming of age.

Roster of Officers

1919-1923

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Grand President               | { May Agness Hopkins, <i>Kappa</i> , 1919-1920<br>Alpha Burkart (Wettach), <i>Chi</i> , 1920-1923   |
| Grand Vice-President          | { Fanny Hunter (Taylor), <i>Xi</i> , 1919-1920<br>Mary Poggi (Richley), <i>Xi</i> , 1920-1923       |
| Grand Secretary               | Helen M. Donaldson, <i>Chi</i>  |
| Grand Treasurer               | Ethel M. Charnock, <i>Theta</i>   |
| Grand Historian               | Gladys Ayland (Glade), <i>Mu</i>  |
| Grand Editor                  | { Abbie Graham, <i>Lambda</i> , 1919-1922<br>Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), <i>Tau</i> , 1922-1923 |
| Inspector                     | Evelyn Callicutt, <i>Lambda-Omega</i>   |
| National Panhellenic Delegate | Dr. May Agness Hopkins*   |

1923-1926

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Grand President               | Alpha Burkart (Wettach), <i>Chi</i>   |
| Grand Vice-President          | Mary Poggi (Richley), <i>Xi</i>   |
| Grand Secretary-Treasurer     | Ethel M. Charnock, <i>Theta</i>   |
| Grand Editor-Historian        | Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), <i>Tau</i>  |
| Inspector                     | { Marion Jellicorse (de Roos), <i>Zeta</i> , 1923-1925<br>Evelyn Callicutt, <i>Lambda-Omega</i> , 1925-1926 |
| National Panhellenic Delegate | Dr. May Agness Hopkins  |

1926-1928

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Grand President           | Catharine Binger (Beverly), <i>Delta</i>    |
| Grand Vice-President      | Bruce Houston (Davis), <i>Alpha</i>         |
| Grand Secretary-Treasurer | Ethel M. Charnock, <i>Theta</i>             |
| Grand Editor-Historian    | Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), <i>Tau</i>  |
| Inspector                 | Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs), <i>Upsilon</i> |

\* (Creation of this separate office dated from 1920.)

### Supplementary Notes

1. Due to the late decision, announcements went out after colleges had closed. Convention took care of this non-legal procedure by voting that "because of the haste with which the convention was called, Grand Chapter's action contrary to the constitution (in order that all chapters be represented) was, in this instance, approved."
2. Postponed by chapter vote.
3. The convention registration fee of later years dated from this meeting's decision to adopt that practice.
4. After 1928, chapter reports were incorporated in those of the province presidents. This time-saving device solved a problem that became formidable as the chapter roll lengthened.
5. Whenever possible this was to be the alumnae secretary.
6. This convention also bonded the previously unbonded Grand Treasurer, and "adopted a uniform accounting system to be selected by the Finance Committee."
7. The 1923 convention set the charter fee at "a flat sum of \$150."
8. In 1928, Grand Chapter was securing "the opinions and reactions of the chapters, particularly those nearest the petitioning group, and in the past year has urged, whenever possible, that the province in which the applying group is located place its stamp of approval on extension in that location, also promising backing and cooperation."
9. There was no change in the Grand Chapter setup at the 1915 or 1919 convention.
10. In 1926 the office of N.P.C. Delegate was omitted as a Grand Chapter office. A special representativeship was created and Dr. Hopkins was made a special representative to any N.P.C. held between the 1926 and 1928 conventions. She was, however, unable to accept. With her resignation that special provision ended.
11. Previous to the 1926 convention the President was chairman of the Constitution Committee.
12. Prior to the Blue Ridge convention the Vice-President was chairman of the Nominating Committee. She also had charge of issuing a directory every three years.
13. The Secretary-Treasurer, prior to the 1926 convention, was chairman of the Finance Committee, of the Scholarship Loan Fund, and of the Credentials Committee.
14. The Editor-Historian was formerly (from 1923 on) a member of the Credentials Committee. For a time she was also secretary of Grand Chapter and of convention and compiled the minutes of convention and the intervening Grand Chapter meetings.
15. The first province presidents are listed in the account of the 1926 convention.
16. Until 1923 the Finance Committee had been composed of the President, Secretary and Treasurer. When the 1923 combination of the latter two offices cut the committee to two, the original number of three was restored at the January, 1925, Grand Chapter meeting which named the Inspector to this committee. The 1923 convention also ratified appointment of committees on chapter houses and scholarship.
17. The 1919 "standing committees of convention" were: credentials, nomination, ritual and constitution. The 1926 constitution listed convention committees as: credentials, resolutions, and a committee to be appointed by Grand Chapter six weeks before convention to investigate possible meeting places.
18. These associations, fairly prevalent at that time, were composed of members of a given chapter who lived in various parts of the country. They were not resident groups.
19. Although not present at the 1918 Grand Chapter meeting, Dr. Hopkins sent the recommendation that the Inspector be salaried. And the history of Kappa chapter



said that "in May 20, 1920, acting on Dr. Hopkins' suggestion, the president appointed two girls to write a letter to each chapter in Zeta Tau Alpha suggesting that national officers be salaried."

20. In one case, when Baker played Washburn, the trip of a girls' basketball team was welcomed as a pilgrimage-opportunity and was so utilized.
21. In a message to the 1927 Gamma province convention, Mrs. Martin wrote: "I knew Zeta Tau Alpha when it had but five chapters and I had a little share in shaping its early policies, as well as in bringing it to Boston University, its first chapter in the North. It seems a long, long time from that day, when there were only twelve chapters on the roll, to the present year in 1927 when Zeta Tau Alpha has approximately five times that number; yet only fifteen years have passed. The phenomenal success that has come to Zeta Tau Alpha was not an accident. It was the result of earnestness of purpose and a fine spirit of loyalty to great ideals. These are the very fiber of Zeta Tau Alpha and will make the sorority an ever-increasing power in the lives of its members and in the colleges and universities of America."
22. The seventeen chapters installed between the 1919 and 1923 conventions were: Alpha Gamma at the University of Michigan in June, 1920; Alpha Delta at Butler University in June, 1920; Alpha Epsilon at the University of Denver in May, 1921; Alpha Zeta at Ohio State University in May, 1921; Alpha Eta at the University of Cincinnati in June, 1921; Alpha Theta at Purdue University in September, 1921; Alpha Iota at Lawrence College in September, 1921; Alpha Kappa at the University of Illinois in October, 1921; Alpha Lambda at Hollins College in December, 1921; Alpha Mu at Washburn College in March, 1922; Alpha Nu at Birmingham-Southern College in October, 1922; Alpha Xi at the University of Indiana in May, 1922; Alpha Omicron at the University of Iowa in December, 1922; Alpha Pi at Ohio University in December, 1922; Alpha Rho at Syracuse University in February, 1923; Alpha Sigma at Oregon Agricultural and Mechanical College in April, 1923; Alpha Tau at the University of Minnesota in May, 1923.
23. The 1923 convention stipulated that a petitioning group must consist of at least ten undergraduate members.
24. The eleven chapters added were: Alpha Upsilon at Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College in August, 1923; Alpha Phi at Northwestern University in November, 1923; Alpha Chi at the University of Kentucky in May, 1924; Alpha Psi at the University of Missouri in May, 1924; Alpha Omega at Ohio Wesleyan in May, 1924; Beta Alpha at George Washington University in November, 1924; Beta Beta at Dickinson College in November, 1924; Beta Gamma at Florida State Woman's College in December, 1924; Beta Delta at Miami University in March, 1925; Beta Epsilon at the University of California at Los Angeles in May, 1926; Beta Zeta at Iowa State College in May, 1926.
25. These were Beta Eta at the University of Nebraska in April, 1927; Beta Theta at Franklin College in April, 1927; Beta Iota at Centenary College in May, 1927; Beta Kappa at Sophie Newcomb College in May, 1927; Beta Lambda at the University of Louisville in December, 1927; Beta Mu at Washington State College in February, 1928; Beta Nu at New Mexico State College in December, 1928.
26. Untold hours of work went willingly into the petitions of this period. Elaborate scrapbooks which hopeful girls put their hearts and best efforts into included a picture of each girl, letters of recommendation from faculty and other influential friends, a history of the group, a picture of the house (if any) and so on. The books—sometimes quite large, but always bulky—were sent the rounds of Grand

- Chapter. Some of these petitions have been preserved in the Historical Collection.
27. The staff listed during that time included Minna Bretschneider, Rho, exchange editor; Mary Poggi (Richley), Xi; Alice Tufts, Upsilon; Louise Bradford (Dillavou), Tau, in charge of special articles; Lafrances Lewis (Campbell), Delta, *alumnæ* editor; Frances Stiles, Alpha Gamma, chapter letter editor. Later Mary Richley was appointed Vice-President and Alice Tuft's name no longer appeared.
  28. The staff announced in the fall of 1922 was: Iva Brashear, Theta, exchanges; Alta Ruth Hahn, Alpha Kappa, chapter letters; Lafrances Lewis (Campbell), Delta, *alumnæ* letters; in addition to the two members previously mentioned.
  29. "For the first time in many years the *Themis* calendar was reintroduced to our readers," said the Editor. That was a small but important restoration integrating the magazine into the workings of the fraternity.
  30. The 1923 convention sanctioned Grand Chapter's choice of an Editor when she was elected to the combined offices of Editor-Historian.
  31. The Editor told the 1925 Grand Chapter meeting that "one of the most important things done the previous summer was the writing of the *Themis Manual*." Two hundred and fifty copies of this first printed manual of instruction to *Themis* correspondents were ready in the summer of 1924. Printing was by courtesy of the publisher.
  32. An action of ten years ago had raised the price of *Themis* to \$1.50. At this time the yearly subscription became \$2.00—a needed revision upward "commensurate with the increased publishing costs."
  33. Adelaide Hazeltine (Jones), Mu-Alpha Psi, was appointed to handle chapter letters upon the resignation of Alta Ruth Hahn, while A. Louise Gale (Haines), Rho, assumed the duties of Lafrances Campbell. After the 1926 convention the reelected Editor-Historian announced three additional staff members: Mildred Spragg (Boyd), Theta-Alpha Zeta; Louise Herrick, Alpha Mu, "for special work;" and Verl Freyburger (Smurthwaite), Tau, for a new "Social Exchange."
  34. "Advertisements had been accepted from firms holding contracts or doing business with Zeta Tau Alpha, but there had never been many," the record said. "Not more than five or six at a time, so, while in 1928, *Themis* carried announcements from the official jewelers and others, the policy held true to tradition."
  35. Said the 1928 *History*: "All chapters are required to have a complete set of *Themis* as far back as copies can be procured."
  36. Mrs. Banta was Associate Editor of *Banta's Greek Exchange* and Grand President of Kappa Alpha Theta at that time.
  37. "A more extensive and cooperative use of the Secret Letter" was urged at the 1919 convention.
  38. Sigma handled the financing, but a loan of half of the publication cost was made by Grand Chapter. Sigma soon repaid it.
  39. The second award went to Ruth Mack (Diehl) and Alberta Tarr, Sigma, for "Zeta Tau Alpha Hymn," while the song receiving honorable mention was a hymn by Marion Steuerwald and Esther Clement, Rho.
  40. This first issue of *The Chain* cleared "nearly \$300 [which was] duly accredited to the *Themis* Current Fund." This was an almost unheard-of achievement in the fraternity world where convention-paper deficits were more the rule than the exception.
  41. The Editor of *Themis* was again in charge, and again appointed A. Louise Haines to serve as business manager. Adelaide Hazeltine (Jones), Mu-Psi, and Mildred Spragg

- (Boyd), Theta-Alfa Zeta, assisted the Editor. The reporters were: Margaret Malone (Wray), Delta; Louise Smathers (Outt), Alpha Chi; Ellen Corse (Potter), Alpha Rho; Virginia Riddle (Hathaway), Alpha Pi; Elizabeth Parks (Bunn), Alpha Epsilon; Ruth Virtue (O'Connor), Alpha Eta. Louise Herrick (Carlin) and Alice Wells (Porter), Alpha Mu, and Katherine Schock (DeGroot), Tau, assisted Mrs. Haines.
42. Said *Themis*: The Editor had "secured a large airy room for her staff, located on the balcony of the rotunda. It mattered not a whit that it was the children's play-room of the hotel . . . and that a sand-box and kiddie cars formed part of the equipment. . . . It was all used, including the kiddie cars."
  43. The Editor of *Themis* was *The Chain's* editor-in-chief. Ellen Corse (Potter), Alpha Rho, and Mildred Spragg (Boyd), Theta-Alfa Zeta, were her two assistants. Reporters ("most of whom were official or alternate delegates and hence were working double time") were: Kathryn Chase Grant, Beta Epsilon; Grace Norvell (Williams), Beta Mu; Mary Eloise Coulter (Manlove), Alpha Psi; Mae Ross Taylor Tau; Alice Rupp (Johnson), Psi; Frances Kennerly (Morton), Beta Lambda. Bernice Kirkham (Terry), Mu-Psi, business manager, was assisted by Orvetta Wissler (Barnes), Alpha Omicron; Garnette Houts (Rolls); Donna Jean Trumble (Murrow), Beta Mu.
  44. Northwestern University was building a new women's quadrangle and almost immediately the very young Alpha Phi chapter was faced with raising some \$20,000 "in time to see a Zeta house erected with the rest," Teddy Risser (Gathany), Alpha Phi, wrote. Displaying a spirit typical of those years, they did raise the necessary sum and the house was completed a few years later.
  45. The plan as presented by the 1923 Editor of *Themis* was worked out with the coöperation of "one of the best-known Greek authorities of the day"—George Banta, Sr., founder and president of the large publishing company that bears his name, and a former president of Phi Delta Theta.
  46. The \$8,770.20 accumulated since the 1923 convention was a surprise even to the officers when the balance was announced at the January, 1925, Grand Chapter meeting.
  47. The "nearly \$16,000" in the *Themis* Endowment Fund was "more than gratifying to the Editor-sponsor who presented the plan in 1923." In her Blue Ridge report she reflected that "when you consider that three years ago we had not a cent saved for *Themis* and relied entirely upon the current publication fund, it seems nothing short of miraculous that in this short space of time such a big sum has accumulated."
  48. Outstanding loans at that date (1926) totaled \$12,210.50. The amount on hand was \$4,939.40.
  49. Records show that "for many years various chapters and individuals" had ardently desired a building fund of some kind. "Zeta chapters desiring to build or buy had to look entirely to outside financial assistance." The need for a national fund "from which chapters could borrow" grew yearly.
  50. Lambda province, Evanston Alumnæ, Alpha Phi and Alpha Delta.
  51. "A sum in excess of \$5,000 was available at once" . . . and the first loan (of \$1,000) went to Alpha Gamma at the University of Michigan. Alpha Omicron, at the University of Iowa, secured the second loan of \$500.
  52. The time required for chapter assessment accounted for the lapse between this date and the 1923 convention.
  53. At the 1928 convention the Finance Committee recommended "that the May Agness Hopkins Fund be allowed to lie in the Dallas Building and Loan Association where



it is accumulating by a high rate of interest, until such time as a committee composed of the Finance Committee and Dr. Hopkins as chairman, shall decide to use the money as a loan fund in accordance with Dr. Hopkins' wishes."

54. The first award went to Frances Anderson Barrell, of Buckingham County, daughter of Maud Jones Horner's last pastor.
55. Said the 1928 convention account, "Since the philanthropic work [will] be the particular project of the alumnae, its financing will necessarily be closely connected with their contributions."
56. Zeta Tau Alpha made its début at the Editors' Conference, for this was the first time that a Zeta Editor had been present. She "was appointed to edit the official bulletin published immediately after the Congress, and was made chairman of the committee handling publicity. . . ." A new publicity plan was also adopted by this Congress: "After a discussion of N.P.C. publicity, the framing of the new platform was referred to the Editor's Conference which, in turn, appointed Shirley Krieg (Strout), Zeta Tau Alpha, to frame such a platform." The report of Zeta's Editor was accepted, and a publicity chairman was appointed to work with the executive committee.
57. "Out of several plans suggested by the Historian, the reunion was chosen and heartily approved by each Founder as well as the members of Grand Chapter. In a short time the first date suggested had been accepted by everyone and plans were well under way."
58. For many years the Founders had had little or no contact with the fraternity they founded, although a 1922 correspondence with the Editor prior to the 1922 Founders' issue of *Themis* was a reestablishing link. Wrote Mrs. Batte: "One of the most exciting days that has come to me since my marriage twenty years ago was Saturday, November 15, 1924. Naturally, it would be, for I was off once again, after years of separation, to have a most beautiful reminiscence with my seven original sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha; to have my first experience of personal contact with a grand officer; and to get a peep into the present workings of our most wonderfully advanced fraternity."
59. Happy as was the day, one silent memory was almost a vivid presence. "We were all there," wrote Ethel Coleman Van Name, "except Maud, and I felt that her spirit lovingly hovered near."



9

*The Fourth Decade*  
1928-1938

6





## Preface

THE TWENTIES and their way of life were on the way out when the fourth decade opened. The sombre thirties were the aftermath of the October, 1929, market crash, which caught several million speculatively-inclined citizens neck-deep in the stock market, and ardently engaged in keeping up with the Joneses. Losses were estimated at forty billions before the year's end.

Lowered income and widespread unemployment soon forced the national economy into a descending spiral. High land prices dropped with a thud; so did crop prices, forcing default on bank-held loans. Bank closings were common; money was hoarded; panicky depositors started bank runs. Families doubled up; many made drastic living adjustments. The depression rolled up.\*

The RFC was launched but President Hoover completed his term of office without winning bipartisan support for his recovery program. The twentieth amendment to the constitution ended the "lame duck" Congress. Elected in 1932, Franklin D. Roosevelt's inauguration in March, 1933, ushered in the New Deal, the accompanying "brain trust" and the precedent shattering Roosevelt era. A national bank holiday was proclaimed; the country was taken off the gold standard; citizens were ordered to turn in their gold notes. The United States reversed the policy it had followed since 1917, and granted official recognition to Soviet Russia in 1933.

Ensuing years saw billions spent on relief, pump-priming, public works, and the running costs of a multiplicity of federal agencies (there were fifty by 1934); the rolls grew as agencies grew and government jobs drew hundreds to Washington. A few of the ever-increasing alphabetical agencies were the C.C.C., P.W.A., C.W.A. Bonus marchers descended on Washington. Farmers were given marketing quotas; by government "directive" (a word that was new to most people, but an omnipresent one thereafter), crops were plowed under and thousands of pigs were slaughtered. Concepts of a managed economy were introduced. Bank deposits up to five thousand dollars were government-insured. Making their entrance were the forty-four hour work week, a minimum wage, social security. The government went into business with the TVA. The orbit of federal authority grew. Government entered the lives of citizens as

\* The depression hit Europe and the rest of the world before it struck the United States.

never before—taxing, lending, spending, regulating, setting agricultural quotas and conditions of employment in industry, erecting new controls over the highways of interstate commerce. Roosevelt was reelected in 1936.

Other developments included Colonial Williamsburg's magnificent restoration through Rockefeller generosity; the never solved disappearance of premier aviatrix Amelia Earhart, on an attempted flight around the world; the first non-stop coast-to-coast flight by Captain Frank Hawkes; Post and Gatty's around-the-world flight in less than nine days; Admiral Richard Byrd's flight over both poles. Air mail and air passenger service became important transportation adjuncts. Transoceanic flights ceased to be nine-day wonders.

The Volstead Act's repeal in 1933 ended Prohibition; class consciousness began to be injected into the American scene, as were racial origins. In 1937, one of the nation's bitterest fights was precipitated by the President's plan to "pack" the Supreme Court. Japan sank the *Panay*, creating a crisis that could have ended in war. Important business enterprises were concentrated into fewer hands; mass production arrived to compound the wonders of the new technology; chain stores gained ground as the country became more chain-store minded. Labor introduced the sit-down strike. More women worked outside the home; women in business had come to stay. Their number had increased six-fold since 1890.

The Hoover Dam was completed; 1937 saw Oregon's Bonneville Dam in operation. Inventions included the mechanical cotton picker and the corn picker that ended the days of the threshing crews. Rural electrification was an inestimable boon to country living.

Telephones were materially improved; radio became an outstanding means of communication; air conditioning became better and cheaper. Chicago's successful 1933-1934 Century of Progress ran for two years (1933-1934). Contract replaced auction bridge.

The black blizzards of the early thirties created the Southwest's vast dust bowl. Driven from their homes, bewildered Okies and Arkies trekked to California. Nothing was heard about flamming youth. Security became the new word at the end of the rainbow. Age was in quest of security; youth in search of a chance; jobs were hard to find. But such lunacies as swallowing gold fish; zoot suits and jitterbugging were chalked up. The world watched as Britain's King Edward VIII (the former Prince of Wales), abdicated, became the Duke of Windsor, and in June, 1937, married the American-born Wallis Warfield Simpson, for whom he renounced his throne.

In the theatre, the hilarious, "You Can't Take It With You," had a record-breaking run. "Roberta," "Face the Music," "The Great Waltz," "Anything Goes," "On Your Toes," "Rosalie," "As Thousands Cheer," and the gaily irreverent "Of Thee I Sing," were among the popular musical productions. Other



successes were Noel Coward's "Bitter Sweet," "Design for Living," and "Tonight at 8:30"; Sinclair Lewis' "Dodsworth"; Alexander Woollcott's "The Man Who Came to Dinner"; "Idiot's Delight"; "Stage Door"; "Alien Corn"; "Ethan Fromme"; "Saint Joan"; "Dark Victory"; "Rain"; Claire Booth's bitter play, "The Women," with its all-woman cast. Sinclair Lewis' serious, admonitory drama, "It Can't Happen Here," was produced in 1936. Some of the stage stars were Helen Hayes, Maurice Evans, Judith Anderson, Katharine Cornell, Lynn Fontanne, Alfred Lunt, Walter Huston, Raymond Massey, Gertrude Lawrence, Tallulah Bankhead. But in 1937, William Gillette, distinguished playwright and actor wrote, "I have the honor to report that the American theatre is declining." Many authors and playwrights transferred their talents to Hollywood.

Kate Smith revived Irving Berlin's "God Bless America," which he had discarded in 1917. It thereafter became almost our second national anthem. Gershwin added to his musical stature with the opera, "Porgy and Bess," and "An American In Paris." His "Rhapsody in Blue," was performed in Carnegie Hall. Reflective of the trend, Ellington's "Sophisticated Lady" and "Mood Indigo" were popular. Boogie-woogie merged from Chicago's south side.

Irving Berlin, George Gershwin, Jerome Kern, Noel Coward, Cole Porter, Richard Rodgers and many others made the decade a tuneful one with song hits that lightly sang their way through the depression:

"Stardust," "Love Walked In," "In The Still of the Night," "Whistle While You Work," "Night and Day," "Rosalie," "Of Thee I Sing," "Dancing In the Dark," "Something To Remember You By," "What Is This Thing Called Love?" "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes," "I Dream Too Much," "The Way You Look Tonight," "All The Things You Are," "The Song Is You," "They Didn't Believe Me," "My Heart Stood Still," "Moon Over Miami," "The Easter Parade," "My Reverie," "Tip Toe Through The Tulips," "Jericho," "Good Night Sweetheart," "Stairway To The Stars," "With a Song In My Heart," "The Melody Lingers On," "I'll See You Again," "I'll Follow My Secret Heart," "Champagne Waltz," "Love in Bloom," "Stay As Sweet As You Are," "Solitude," "Be Still My Heart," "Paradise Waltz," "Mimi," "April in Paris," "Stormy Weather," "Let's Fall in Love," "Shadow Waltz," "Yesterdays," "My Moonlight Madonna," "Temptation," "The Last Round-Up," "Love Is the Sweetest Thing," "Orchids in the Moonlight," "I'll Sing You a Thousand Love Songs," "Is It True What They Say About Dixie?" "Betty Coed," "Happy Days Are Here Again."

When Walt Disney pioneered in full-length animated color pictures in 1938, delighted movie-goers flocked to see "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." Shirley Temple was the child-wonder star. The unforgettable "Lost Horizon" gave us the word *Shangri-La*. Grace Moore enchanted the country with "One Night of Love"; singing favorites were Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy; France's strawhatted Maurice Chevalier was popular. Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers were a famous dancing pair.

Motion pictures remembered from this decade included:

"Captains Courageous," "The Barretts of Wimpole Street," "Pygmalion," "It Happened One Night," "Gaslight," "In Old Chicago," "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town," "Anthony Adverse," "Little Women," "Queen Christina," "The Private Life of Henry VIII," "Under Two Flags," "Winterset," "Show Boat," "Alexander's Ragtime Band," "The Continental," "Flying Down to Rio."

Among the galaxy of screen stars were:

Bette Davis, Olivia De Havilland, James Stewart, Cary Grant, Ginger Rogers, Gary Cooper, Clark Gable, Claudette Colbert, Irene Dunne, Robert Taylor, Marie Dressler, Tyrone Power, Robert Montgomery, Spencer Tracy, Herbert Marshall, Adolph Menjou, Ronald Coleman, Greta Garbo, Charles Laughton, William Powell, Myrna Loy, Al Jolson, Eddie Cantor.

Among others, opera had Lawrence Tibbett, Helen Traubel, Lauritz Melchior, Grace Moore, Edith Mason, Kirsten Flagstad, Rosa Raisa. In a decade of famous orchestral conductors were the magic names of Toscanini, Damrosch, Stowkowski and Koussevitzky.

Radio offered its millions of devoted listeners the finest orchestras, singers, and hour-long programs of good music; eagerly listened to programs (Show Boat, Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy, Gracie Allen and George Burns, Jack Benny, to name a few), "name" news commentators such as H. V. Kaltenborn and Lowell Thomas, and many others, sports events, soap operas, comedy, drama. Network announcers were also "names." Top crooner Bing Crosby became an established movie singer-comedian.

Dances like the "Big Apple" reflected the growing interest in folk materials; the actual steps drew more and more away from the convention ballroom technique. Something was lost. In contrast to its social and recreational importance in past decades, the popularity of dancing began to decline.

In the world of books, Margaret Mitchell's sensational "Gone With the Wind" literally swept the country and became the century's best seller. Dale Carnegie's "How to Win Friends and Influence People" was read by thousands; Marjorie Hillis had a following with "Orchids on Your Budget" and "Live Alone and Like It." Pearl Buck's "The Good Earth" appeared in 1931; Erskine Caldwell's "Tobacco Road," in 1932. People read "Anthony Adverse," by Hervey Allen; Eugene O'Neill's "Ah Wilderness," "The Yearling," by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings; "Oil For the Lamps of China," by Alice Tisdale Hobart; "Lamb in His Bosom," by Caroline Miller; "Years of Grace," by Margaret Ayer Barnes; James Hilton's "Lost Horizon" and "Goodbye Mr. Chips."

Europe's simmering cauldron threatened to boil over. Debt-burdened nations spent millions to relieve depression conditions, discussed international indebtedness, but war debts for the most part remained unpaid. Upheavals changed Greece, Spain and Turkey from their ancient monarchical systems in 1931. Europe witnessed the rise of Hitler and Nazism in Germany, Communism

in Russia; the growing strength of Mussolini and Fascism in Italy. Militarism flamed. Conquest-hungry dictators rattled sabres, roared defiance and revived ancient salutes. Italy invaded Ethiopia in 1935; Emperor Haile Selassie's futile appeal to the impotent League of Nations (which Hitler bolted in 1933) foreshadowed its forthcoming dissolution.

The year 1938 saw the complete scrapping of what was left of World War treaties; the *anschluss* of Austria and Germany; Czechoslovakia's virtual dismemberment, sacrificed under the Munich Pact which Britain's Neville Chamberlain believed would avert another holocaust in Europe; the menacing Rome-Berlin Axis; Spain's continuing civil conflict (with Russia and Germany supporting opposing sides); Japan's conquest of large areas of China in the continuing "undeclared war"; Japan's narrowly averted war with Russia. International disarmament efforts failed signally. By 1937 the armament race was so great that the United States was forced to join it.

A global crisis lay over the rim of the world as the decade ended.





## The Chapters

**B**ETA XI: When the time came for the installation of the first chapter in the fourth decade, the fraternity again turned its face toward Ohio where, at Akron University, Zeta Tau Alpha's fifth chapter in that state was installed early in 1929.

An urban university attuned to the needs of the city it serves, the chemistry department then "offered the only course in rubber chemistry in the United States." Akron University, "as Buchtel College (its predecessor) had a notable history. As a municipal institution it proved most successful" and Beta Xi's introductory writer described it as having a "great future." Zeta Tau Alpha had not placed a chapter in a college of this type for many years, but attention was drawn to Akron University when a strong local group came to notice.

The story went back to May 15, 1922, "just another day to many students of Akron University, but to each of the group of ten girls it was one of the 'days of her life,'" Helen McGrath (Curnow) wrote. "For some time, under the careful tutelage of Ann Raynow (Woodall), these girls had worked to organize a Greek-letter fraternity, with the hope of giving their bonds of friendship and fellowship a more permanent basis. At last faculty permission was received, an adviser was chosen, and the day of organization came."

Ann Raynow (Woodall), Mildred Knoske (Johnson), Leila Riblett (Buchtel), Eulalia Frampton (Schlund), Ruth Bower, Florence Greenlese, Martha McDougal, Gladys Leonard (Bartoo) and Louise Parker (Whalen) were the girls who finally "met in the little room of the University library." Kappa Alpha Sigma was the name they chose. Then "they began organization plans, which, with the preparation of pledging, initiation and ritual services, occupied them until the end of that term."

With the fall opening of the university the new group rented and furnished rooms. They "were then ready to begin life as a full-fledged fraternity group which they determined to make one of the best and strongest on the campus." Scholarship and campus recognition were twin goals they set for that first year. And they succeeded, for "as time went on there was scarcely a campus function or activity of any sort which did not have a Kappa Alpha Sigma name among those participating, particularly in musical and social lines."

Engrossed in their endeavors, for two years they were too busy to give thought to affiliation with a national organization but "during the third year, Nan Furbay (Myers), Theta, sister of Kappa Alpha Sigma's Nora Furbay (Boss), influenced the girls to petition Zeta Tau Alpha." Under the circumstances, the Bethany College Zeta no doubt found a happy response, and once the decision was made, the Akron girls persevered. "The high goal then established—the securing of a Zeta charter—was one toward which they determined to work as long as a spark of hope remained," Helen McGrath told *Themis* readers. "In a large measure to this determination, which braved early disappointments and brought renewed vigor to work for the same high goal, do we owe the present existence of Beta Xi."

Kappa Alpha Sigma's first official visitor was Ethel M. Charnock, Grand Secretary-Treasurer, who made an inspection in 1925. Then two years later, Melba White (Hillebrandt), who was president of Delta province at the time, visited the chapter.

"In the meantime," they wrote, "the hope of becoming worthy of Zeta Tau Alpha had encouraged many of the girls to win honors in many fields of campus activities." The chapter "had always held a high scholarship standing" and many of its members belonged to honorary organizations. Frances McGrath, a talented singer and soprano lead in the Glee Club, was a charter member of Mu Phi Omega, an honorary musical group. Enid McCormick, the Glee Club's contralto lead, belonged to Mu Phi Omega and Sigma Phi Epsilon, the teachers' honorary fraternity. Their two talented writers, Alice Dey and Ruth Romwebber, were members of R.L.S. Quill Club and Alpha Phi Gamma, respectively, while the latter was the *Buchtelite's* news-editor one year. Pi Kappa Delta bid Elizabeth Clark because of her women's debate team activities. Then Ruth Romwebber and Enid McCormick received the highest campus honor—the A key awarded for activities and high scholarship. Helen McGrath, treasurer of Women's League, was also vice-president of the Glee Club and Spanish Club. The Glee Club held the interest of many Kappa Alpha Sigmas, "thirteen of them being members at the present time," they wrote in 1929.

Not long after the visit of the province president, and while they "were still waiting anxiously to hear from Grand Chapter," their disappointment was great "that Nan Furbay Myers, patroness and dear friend, left. However, her loyal work for us, both as a patroness and as one who wanted to make us Zetas, was carried on by Phoebe Machin (Bradley), Sigma, and Janice Hahn (Berry), Alpha Pi."

Their "work and waiting were not in vain, for one wonderful day, July 23, 1928," the long-hoped-for message of their charter grant arrived.

On January 10, 1929, Bertha Cruse (Gardner), Grand President, Mildred Spragg (Boyd), National Inspector, and Ethel Cruse (Mouton), National Finance Committee chairman, arrived to install Beta Xi. The local alumnae's dinner that



night at the University Club honoring the Grand President "was the opening event of the three-day installation program."

After dinner, pledge services were held at the home of Phoebe Machin Bradley, "loyal friend of us all, and forty-six girls became the proud wearers of the carpenters' squares."

Examinations and filling out forms took up the next morning, while at noon "the Kappa Alpha Sigma colors of rose and gray were used for the last time" at a luncheon honoring the visiting officers.

Then, "beginning at six o'clock, on Friday evening, January 11, 1929, in the recreation hall of the Goodyear Theatre, forty new members were received into Zeta Tau Alpha" when Beta Xi was officially installed by Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. Boyd, assisted by Mrs. Mouton and members of Alpha Zeta.

Those who became Beta Xi's charter members were: Ann Raynow (Woodall), Mildred Knoske (Johnson), Leila Riblett (Buchtel), Gladys Leonard (Bartoo), Eulalia Frampton (Schlund), Louise Parker (Whalen), Lorraine Austin, Pearl Briggs (Hubbard), Helen Chenot (Larabee), Helen Christman (Bolenbacker), Alice Dey (Krenrick), Ruth Eberhart, Helen Fairbanks, Nora Furbay (Boss), Weltha Herbig (Matz), Elizabeth Kaiser (Newhall), Pauline Lang (Schroeder), Frances McGrath (Burgess), Enid McCormick (Ripley), Bernadyne Pfromm, Dorothy Riblett (Ruch), Blanche Poppenger (Suttkus), Corwine Helwig, Elizabeth Clark, Grace Poppenger (Baird), Helen McGrath (Curnow), Margaret Reed (Wright), Isabelle Allen (Hadley), Kathryn Armacost (Rice), Mildred Armacost (Griffith), Madeline Brothers, Marguerite Bair (Felber), Wava Buntz (Keach), Edna Hawkins (Selby), Eleanor Heintz, Sarah Jones (Webster), Mildred Bartlett (Jones) and Ruth Romwebber (Zuelsdorf), as well as Jane Sargent (Barnhardt) and Mayme Ann Dixon, honorary initiates.

Mrs. Barnhardt, the chapter's former faculty adviser, was a Saturday hostess when she entertained at "a beautifully appointed luncheon introducing the installing officers to the prominent faculty women and the officers of both the college and city Panhellenic." Then Beta Xi's college and alumnae members combined to give the afternoon reception that introduced the Zeta officers as well as the chapter's new patronesses, Mrs. Louis Charvoz, Mrs. John Clemmer and Mrs. T. S. Eichleberger, to the women of the university.

The toast theme for Saturday night's installation banquet at the University Club was the "White Violet," and white leather programs bore the Zeta coat-of-arms in silver. With Ann Raynow as the toastmistress, the following toasts were given: "The Seed," Mildred Knoske; "The Gardener," Phoebe Bradley; "The Blossom," Blanche Poppenger; "The Plant," Mildred Spragg; "Head Gardener," Bertha Cruse Gardner. The banquet table with its place cards of blue and silver ships, no two of which were alike, and the decorations of blue flowers and silver-tipped ferns enchanted the Beta Xis who were also "happy to have Zetas from nearby chapters" there for the gala occasion. Many chapters

were represented through the sixteen members of the Akron Alumnæ chapter. When the greetings were read, each alumna read the message from her own chapter.

Full as it was, the day was not yet ended, for "following the banquet, Beta Xi's alumnæ gave a dance which was attended by two representatives from each men and women's fraternity, and the room was made more beautiful by the many baskets of flowers sent by the various organizations." Luncheon, reception, banquet and dance—surely it was a day Beta Xi would always remember.

The "Zeta breakfast" Sunday morning, at the Portage Country Club, brought installation's social affairs to a close, but after breakfast the ritual service was given and installation of officers was held at the home of Blanche Poppenger, who was installed as the new president.

The last ceremony was over. The elaborate social schedule was a brilliant memory, but Beta Xi remembered the friends who particularly helped to make installation a success—"Nan Furbay Myers, who first planted the seed of love for Zeta Tau Alpha in our hearts; Phoebe Machin Bradley and Janice Berry," to whom they "owed a debt of gratitude they could never repay." They remembered the Akron Alumnæ chapter who "worked so tirelessly for them," and the Zetas who came from nearby chapters, while the "letters, telegrams and flowers from college and alumnæ chapters all over the country helped to make Beta Xi's installation one of wonderful welcoming."

Zeta Tau Alpha was the fifth national fraternity for women to place a chapter at the University of Akron.

**BETA OMICRON:** The Deep South again beckoned when the repeal of state anti-fraternity legislation in 1927 opened the way for the establishment of fraternities on the campus of the University of South Carolina, at Columbia, the state's capital.

"It would be hard to find a college where traditions and ideals are more respected and cherished than at 'Carolina,' as the University is known throughout the South," Beta Omicron's historian wrote. Chartered in 1801, it had the distinction of being the third oldest college in the United States. Gracious-living, aristocratic South Carolina was one of the first of the American colonies established, and fabulous and fascinating was its storied antebellum life. It was a state steeped in tradition and history. The papers of secession were drawn in Columbia. But South Carolina was one of the states hardest hit by the War Between the States. It found the road back a long one, and the years dragged by.

Men's fraternities existed at Columbia before the legislative ban abolished them. There never were any for women, for although women were not actually banned, there were very few of them on the campus.

Zeta Tau Alpha was immediately contacted when the university was again

opened to fraternities and Zeta was interested in placing a chapter in a state whose heritage was so fine, so definitely American.

Zeta Tau Alpha's entrance to South Carolina was virtually by invitation. Upon repeal of the long-time legislative ban, the dean of women, Dr. Irene Dilliard, formed several groups for the express purpose of petitioning national fraternities. Her high opinion of Delta chapter at Randolph-Macon Woman's College, from which she graduated, led her to select Zeta Tau Alpha as one of the nationals to be petitioned. And the group selected for Zeta was hand-picked. The correspondence between Dr. Dilliard and Zeta's 1926-1928 Grand President—herself from Delta chapter—was most cooperative and cordial.

Thus, the Zeta Phi Club was promptly organized on October 1, 1927, through the inspiration and with the blessing of the sponsoring dean of women. In the original group were Mayre Wall (Eargle), Gertrude Rigby, Marie Peacock (Brown), Elizabeth Tompkins (Webster), Louise McIntosh (Roberts), Stella Blake (Ingram) and Gwendolyn Greene. And, as its by-laws clearly stated, Zeta Phi was organized for the express purpose of petitioning Zeta Tau Alpha.

Zeta Phi's members included some outstanding students, "a Zeta Phi being president of the Women's Athletic Association, and an officer of Alpha Kappa Gamma, leadership fraternity, while several members held offices in the literary society, the Y.W.C.A., and K.S.K., a fraternity for the promotion of college spirit." A Zeta Phi member of the debating team was judged the best co-ed debater in 1928-1929. Another was the first woman associate editor of the *Gamecock*, the weekly newspaper, while that year a Zeta Phi was the junior orator at commencement.

Zeta Phi was a member of the college Panhellenic and "was much encouraged by the nationals in petitioning Zeta Tau Alpha." Visiting them in the fall of 1927, was Zeta's Grand President, Catharine Bingler (Beverly), who was deeply interested in seeing a chapter at South Carolina. A year later, in the autumn of 1928, the National Inspector, Mildred Spragg (Boyd), made the formal inspection, and in due time a charter was granted.

When spring came to South Carolina, Beta Omicron was installed on March 4-7, by the next Grand President, Bertha Cruse (Gardner), and Margaret Glasgow, Alpha Lambda, who was doing graduate work at the university. Assisting with initiation were Mary Purdy, Helen Taylor and Sarah Stewart, Phi, who came from Duke University.

Zeta Phi was justifiably proud that the installation ceremonies could be held "at the attractive Zeta house on Green street," for it was "the only women's fraternity house on the campus," and they had shown enterprise in acquiring one so soon. In later years chapter houses went out of the picture, and fraternities were housed in university suites, but in 1929, the Zeta Phis had their own home and they were proud of it.

Despite a continuous downpour, about two hundred attended Monday



afternoon's "lovely tea introducing the installing officers." Flowers were sent by Phi Chi, a local club. Beta Omicron's "pledges and promises" served. The guests included representatives from the men's and women's fraternities, Panhellenic and the faculty. In the receiving line were Mrs. Gardner; Miss Glasgow; Mayre Wall, Beta Omicron's president; Delta Delta Delta's president, Elizabeth Jones; Eloise Shepherd, Delta Zeta's president; Alpha Delta Pi's president, Harriet Baker; Mrs. C. F. Mercer, a patroness, and Mrs. D. H. Hansen, faculty adviser.

Twenty-two girls were pledged Monday night, then Tuesday was given over to "filling out forms." On Tuesday night was "the beautiful initiation, after which seventeen girls proudly wore the Zeta badge": Mayre M. Wall (Eargle), president; Gertrude Rigby, vice-president; Stella Blake (Ingram), secretary; Elizabeth Tompkins (Webster), treasurer; Erma Meeker (Garrison), historian; Gwendolyn Greene, Jettie Cloyd, Marie Peacock (Brown), Rose Miller Betts (Hayden), Martha Milhous, Louise McIntosh (Roberts), Charlotte Porter (Ellerbe), Geraldine Cate, Augusta Willis, Beryl McIntosh, Jessie Kahl (Mercer), Dulie Matteson (Hansen).

Wednesday's "delightful luncheon at the Rose Mary Tea Room was given by Mrs. Hansen." There were several informal talks.

Panhellenic cordiality prevailed. Delta Zeta sent flowers for the installation banquet held Wednesday night at the Forest Lake Club. Delta Delta Delta sent corsages to the installing officers and Beta Omicron's president. Faculty members, patrons and patronesses, joined with the Zetas and their pledges and promises\* in celebrating the occasion, and among the toasts given that night were those of former governor Wilson G. Harvey (whose Zeta daughter, Mary Butler Harvey, was at Hollins College), Professor Charles F. Mercer, and Mrs. Gardner.

Beta Omicron was Zeta's first chapter in the state of South Carolina, and the fifth N.P.C. group to be installed on the Columbia campus, although it was among the first organized.

**BETA PI:** The group that was to constitute Zeta's second chapter in the state of Oregon was so unusual that Dean Karl Onthank, executive secretary to the president of the university said, when recommending Gamma Nu to Grand Chapter: "Due to quite an extraordinary circumstance the group contains more girls of a distinctly superior quality in leadership, scholarship and otherwise, than is ordinarily achieved by a local group even after a number of years of existence. We rarely consider for recommendation to a national organization a group that has not been active on the campus for several years. This group, however, is of so extraordinary a quality that it is entitled . . . to immediate recognition."

\* Those who had "promised" to pledge, according to the custom then prevailing at South Carolina.

Thus with the highest recognition from the university itself, Gamma Nu came into existence under unusually favorable circumstances. "The group was organized from a number of chosen leaders among the unaffiliated girls registered at the University of Oregon," Berniece Rasor wrote in 1929. "Its organized nucleus, composed of Berniece Rasor (Linn), Lillian Vail (Fish), Allison Wilder (Goodfellow), Mildred Lowden and Lily DeBernardi worked so well in the service of the larger groups of unaffiliated girls that they banded themselves together to form a local sorority.

"This group, together with Ruth Hopson, held its first constructive meeting at the Anchorage on May 22, 1927." An indication of their incentive-inspiration, or their thinking and why, was clearly embodied in the "report that was given on the aims and ideals of Zeta Tau Alpha as given and represented in Miss Ada Liddell, former president of Alpha Tau chapter, who was spending the spring in Oregon."<sup>1</sup> A powerful emissary for Zeta, Ada Liddell set their sights high, for Gamma Nu laid "definite plans for expansion, keeping in mind that a sorority to be successful must have in its membership character, personality and a fair degree of intelligence." Accordingly, "girls were then selected who could maintain the scholarship of the fraternity, its organization, its business affairs [and] its social needs."

A picnic on May 30 was their first rushing party but progress enjoyed a brisk tempo, for by June 4 they reported that "the sorority had been enlarged to twenty members. The emblem, a tri-flame torch" was decided upon at a meeting that day and officers chosen were: president, Berniece Rasor (Linn); vice-president, Ruby Russell (Sullivan); secretary, Mary McLean (Geyer); treasurer, Lillian Vail (Fish); house manager, Alice Edwards (Fenn). Mildred Lowden; Thusnelda Koehler; Lily DeBernardi; Carolyn Cooper (Stuart); Lucile Edwards (Smith); Allison Wilder (Goodfellow); Ruth Hopson; Beatrice Wilder (McKinley); Dorothy Deitze (Ten Eyck); Laura Mae Bryant (Harrington); Mary Harney (Wilbur); Winnifred Gouldin; Bernyce Hensley (Byrd); Vena Gaskill (Shaw); Mary Frances Dilday (Brackney); Ruth Newman (Lesson) and Zelle Ruble completed the list of Gamma Nu's charter members.

Four days later they "met with Ada Liddell who talked of the ideals of Zeta, its principles and philanthropic interests, and the requirements placed on chapters. Our petition asking to become a student living organization was accepted on June 8 and immediately we started work to establish a house near the campus. By the time college closed in June, committees were appointed to take care of all details for getting the house and organization ready to be fully established in September, 1927." And "all of this time" they added, "we were helped by Miss Liddell, whom we loved and admired very much."

Admitted to the college Panhellenic in August, Gamma Nu conducted fall rushing "under the rules of this group." They pledged ten girls, a highly satisfactory number. Then on September 24, 1927, "Gamma Nu was officially announced." And after Charlotte MacGregor (Boggs) visited them unofficially

early in the fall, their interest was "further stimulated in Zeta Tau Alpha."

A telegram on November 20 told them that their "informal inspection would take place either the coming weekend or the one following." But, "three days later the province president, Helen Clair, called long-distance to suggest the first weekend, since the university was under quarantine and everyone would be at home. Only Mary McClurg (Fletcher), Mu, can tell of the hurry and flurry of . . . trying to get the house in order for informal inspection, November 25-27," they related.

However Helen Clair soon made them feel comfortable. "We . . . were determined more than ever that Zeta should look with favor on us," they wrote, but to their anxious hearts the tempo of the succeeding weeks seemed distinctly slow. It was. Grand Chapter officers who were closest felt that was best. "There was a long period of waiting during which we were consoled by Miss Clair and Mrs. Fletcher," they said. "It seemed an endless time before we were notified that Miss MacGregor would formally inspect us February 13-15." They were delighted that both the National Inspector and Miss Clair attended their first formal dance, given at the Osborn Hotel.

When, on February 28, 1928, their "scrapbook, petition<sup>2</sup> and recommendations were dispatched" to Grand Chapter, that indicated their formal acceptance as a petitioning group, for this was the period in which an informal inspection was given before a group was permitted to petition formally.

"Gamma Nu has a pledging and initiation service and ritual," Helen Clair wrote Grand Chapter after her visit, "and . . . a chapter room on the third floor" of their house. "The Eastern Star experience of their leaders stood them in good stead," she added, in telling about "the very lovely pledging service" they gave for her. "It was beautifully conducted, with fitting symbolism and ideas well expressed." Perhaps that was not strange, for Berniece Rasor, Gamma Nu's president, was the local president and Grand President of the National Order of Teminids, the college organization of the Eastern Star. Three Gamma Nus were members.

"Since its founding Gamma Nu has been a very independent order," the Oregon girls asserted at this juncture. Declaring that "in scholarship and activities it was not lacking," they listed "a partial itemization" of the members' achievements.<sup>3</sup> It was impressive in length and in importance. Well aware of their position, they were sure that "Grand Chapter took this and other recommendations to heart." Evidently they did, for word of a charter grant reached Eugene on July 20 and the group, already star-studded with campus honors, "immediately started to work harder than ever to make Zeta proud of its new acquisition."

During the year 1927-1928, Gamma Nu strengthened itself by electing Agnes Gilbert (Schucking), of Salem, and Elnora E. Thomson, of Portland, to honorary membership, while "eighteen girls were pledged and initiated." In 1928-1929,



Lucille Hood (Titus), Ida May Pope and Alice Laudien (Foote) became honorary members "and fourteen girls were initiated. Three remained pledges." During that time they enjoyed the friendship and advice of Mary McClurg (Fletcher), Mu; Netta Sue Bledsoe (Gavitt), Kappa, and Constance Rebhan (Miller), Alpha Sigma. April 12-15, 1929, was the date set for installation—after another long period of waiting.

"Beta Pi came into being on April 14, 1929." A series of events preceded the installation ceremonies at the chapter house. Thursday's informal dinner on April 11, honoring the Grand President and the province president, preceded an informal chapter meeting that was a prelude to the pledging of fifty-two members and pledges.

"About one hundred couples attended Friday evening's formal installation ball held in the ballroom of the Eugene Hotel." There was a musical program and a receiving line composed of Bertha Cruse (Gardner); Helen Clair; Gladys Taft, Portland Alumnæ president; Mrs. Elizabeth Scaiefe, housemother; Mr. and Mrs. John Seavy; Mr. and Mrs. V. D. Scobert, of Eugene, and Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Allen, of Salem, patrons and patronesses.

Initiation services for forty-nine took most of Saturday, until the four o'clock formal installation tea in Alumnæ Hall of the Woman's Building. With Mrs. Gardner, Grand President, as the installing officer, assisted by Helen Clair and visiting Zetas,<sup>4</sup> the following became charter members of Beta Pi:

Agnes Gilbert (Schucking), Lucille Hood (Titus), Ida May Pope, Alice Laudien (Foote), Lucille Edwards (Smith), Stella Ann Fishburn (Young), Ruby Russell (Sullivan), Allison Wilder (Goodfellow), Beatrice Wilder (McKinley), Lillian Vail (Fish), Vena Gaskill (Shaw), Mary Mosher McLean (Geyer), Mildred Lowden, Ovidia Hammer (Erickson), Alice Edwards (Fenn), Mary Harney (Wilbur), Bernyce Hensley (Byrd), Emmabell Woodworth (Davis), Laura Bryant (Harrington), Alice Maude Smith, Ada Garfield (Kuhlken), Irene Bowlsby (Nelson), Mary Frances Dilday (Brackney), Mathilda Tuerck (Friedel), Esther Saager (Jones), Phyllis Hartzog (Bradley), Carolyn Cotterel Cooper (Stuart), Alta Kingsbury (Gassler), Nadine Gilkeson (Hall), Dorothea Goodfellow (Buck), Eleanor Jane Ballantyne (Schneider), Nellie Mae Hadfield (Jorgenson), Mildred Dobbins (Myers), Lucile Cornutt (Thompson), Isabel Weinrick (Turnbull), Gudrun Hammer (Eaton), Ruth Dickey (Stauffer), Ruth Newman (Leeson), Mabel Kullander (McKinney), Erna Dingman (Buck), Rena Cornutt (Parsons), Juanita Kilborn (Marlott), Margaret Underwood (Hempey), Blanche Griggs, Dorothy Thomsen, LaVerne Keyt (Cook), Ruth E. Hopson, Vivian Pesola.

"Although the day was unfavorable as far as weather conditions were concerned, the spacious, homelike atmosphere of the hall . . . was a pleasing setting for the formal gowns of the girls as they served nearly 250 guests," Eleanor Jane Ballantyne wrote about the tea. Mrs. Isaac Patterson, wife of the governor of

the state, was in the receiving line with Oregon's dean of women, Hazel Pratsman Schwering, Mrs. Gardner, Miss Clair, chapter president Mary McLean, president-elect Mary Frances Dilday, and the housemother.

Baskets of blue iris and white daffodils set the stage for the formal banquet's Zeta garden theme that night at the Osborn Hotel. "Eighty-seven Zetas seated at the large E-shaped table" heard the toastmistress, Agnes Schucking, "call on the following gardeners: Berniece Rasor, 'Planting the Seed'; Helen Clair, 'Watching the Garden Grow'; Mary McLean, 'Sunshine and Rain'; Gladys Taft, 'As Seen Through the Hedge'; Bertha Cruse Gardner, 'Budding of Beta Pi'; Mary Frances Dilday, 'The Trellis.'" Then "greetings and toasts" were given by Psi's president, Jessie Williams; Alpha Sigma's president, Valette Harer; Katherine Woolston of the Seattle Alumnæ; and their staunch local supporters, Sue Gavitt and Mary Fletcher. "Many songs and a picture ended the gala evening."

But Sunday morning's "breakfast at the Anchorage, overlooking Oregon's famous mill race" was another festive occasion. Mildred Loudon presided. The Oregon alumnæ presented a skit, the visiting Alpha Sigmas from nearby Corvallis entertained with Zeta songs, while "Mrs. Gardner responded with a most appropriate poem." It was April in Oregon and "the long U-shaped table was appropriately decorated in blue and white flowers, with clever place cards held in position by a spray of white violets."

With the installation of officers at the chapter house the memorable week end drew to a close. Zeta Tau Alpha had come to Oregon—the sixteenth national fraternity for women on the campus—with a nucleus which the dean of women called "a picked group."

**BETA RHO:** Very early in the history of Zeta Tau Alpha hopes were entertained for a chapter in the Dominion of Canada, and occasional references appeared through the years. But not until 1929 was that hope to be realized. When a chapter across the border became a reality in that year, it not only represented the achievement of the long-time dream but with it Zeta Tau Alpha attained the status of an international organization.

In 1877, the three denominational colleges in Winnipeg—St. Johns, St. Boniface and Manitoba, organized the University of Manitoba "to be an examining and degree-conferring body, with a view to keeping up the standards and maintaining the efficiency of university education in the province." New departments were added and growth was steady. At the time of Zeta Tau Alpha's entrance, the university was the third largest in Canada.

Gamma Phi Beta was the only national fraternity for women on the Manitoba campus when, on April 7, 1929, a local sorority, Kappa Tau, was announced. The different faculties were well represented in the charter group of nine—Edith Thompson, the Lady Stick of Wesley College; May Lyons (Elliott), Lady Stick of Science; Vera McDorman and Margot Whyard (Grass-

by) of Medicine; Amy Newton (Wade) of Pharmacy and Norah MacDonald (Wicks), Doris Arnett (Newman), Vernice Newton (Trimble), and Gladys Bain (Turnbull), of the Arts' faculty.

Unusually well-rounded and outstanding in the calibre and ability of its membership, Kappa Tau quickly prospered under the tutelage of Mrs. Rupert C. Lodge. "In their first year they had a cozily furnished four-room suite, and were very happy in being able to maintain it on a successful basis. Two of the members lived in the suite and many delightful teas and small parties were enjoyed there," they wrote. Their first fall opened "with a formal bridge and the next Christmas they sent many Christmas hampers."

When the new year brought the rushing season, Kappa Tau's first venture turned out most successfully and the chapter was well satisfied. By the time of its first birthday in April the group reported that Kappa Tau was "well organized, on its feet financially, and well represented and active on the campus."

But in the meantime the question of petitioning a national organization arose, and a decision had to be made. Zeta Tau Alpha came into the picture through Margot Whyard (Grassby), whose cousin, Gladys Brown, Alpha Kappa, was an ardent charter member of the Illinois chapter. Convinced through her cousin that there could be no finer fraternity goal than Zeta Tau Alpha, Margot transmitted her enthusiasm and convictions to the other members and Zeta was the eventual choice. Too, the Illinois Zeta was willing to help in any way she could, and she knew very well the Grand Chapter member who had played a dominant role in the securing of the Illinois chapter.

Kappa Tau submitted its petition, and hoped. "Only those who have petitioned can know the anxiety and moments of delight and despair that Kappa Tau experienced from then on, until the time of acceptance," the historian reflected later.

"The second year saw a move to another suite, closer to Varsity, which proved more successful in every way, and Christmastime found the girls exceptionally busy with their petition and Christmas cheer. Rushing came around again, then just at the beginning of the formal rushing season, in fact, on the very night of the first party, the news arrived—the charter had been granted."

Kappa Tau had previously been inspected November 7-9, 1928, by Christine Bertholas (Olsen), Upsilon, of Minneapolis, who was selected to make the visit for Grand Chapter. Whether the determining factor was the distance to Winnipeg or the excellence of the group, Kappa Tau had only one inspection in an era when every new group had two. But since that period of the twenties knew few obstacles and distance was seldom a handicap, the latter reason was probably the most influential. For it was an outstanding group of superior Canadian girls.

"Needless to say," Beryl Williamson (Bergman) wrote, after word of the



charter grant, "rushing was exceptionally successful, and Kappa Tau initiation was followed by the spring formal in honor of the new members." Then the arrival of Zeta's President on May 3, 1929, "heralded the passing of Kappa Tau."

Installation activities began that evening at the Royal Alexandra Hotel, when Bertha Cruse (Gardner), assisted by Dorothy Claus (Wallace), Alpha Tau, of Minneapolis, pledged the Kappa Taus and "each came away proudly wearing the Zeta pledge pin and ribbons—thrilled to think that they were almost Zetas.

"Nine o'clock the next morning" found them hard at work writing the fraternity examination, "which eventually was finished." Then, "after forms and blanks were filled out," there was a luncheon in honor of their guests at the Hudson's Bay Grill.

At three o'clock that afternoon initiation ceremonies began at the Royal Alexandra for the following charter members: Melba Cumberland (Bruce), Thelma Moore, Edith Thompson, Margaret Heminway (Cockburn), Beryl Williamson (Bergman), Jean Prosser (Hadley), Norman Johnson (O'Brien), Norah MacDonald (Wicks), Helen Wallace (McSherry), Margot Whyard (Grassby), May Lyons (Elliott), Vera McDorman, Gladys Bain (Turnbull), Helen Farley, Dolores Preudhomme (Bottomney), Jean Boardman (Campbell), Vernice Newton (Trimble), Doris Arnett (Newman), Helen Newton (Witt), Helen Chestnut (Davis), Dorothy Crerar (Naylor), Audrey Lee (Price) and Amy Newton (Wade).

At Beta Rho's installation banquet which followed in the Windsor Room, they were "seated at one long table which was lighted by tall turquoise blue tapers. Rows of narrow satin ribbon were artistically arranged around the table, while modernistic place cards of gray and blue, with blue jars of large gray pussywillows carried out the color scheme."

After expressing the chapter's "happiness in the occasion and how dear the installation was to them," the toastmistress, Gladys Bain, Beta Rho's president, "proposed the toast to the King, which was responded to by the national anthem. The toast to the Republic was responded to by 'The Star-Spangled Banner.'" Dorothy Crerar, the vice-president, then proposed a toast to Zeta Tau Alpha. Dorothy Claus, Alpha Tau, responded.

When three of the local founders told about "The History of Kappa Tau," they compared its growth to that of the construction of a building. Margot Whyard's topic was "The Site," while May Lyons spoke on "The Foundation." Edith Thompson's subject was "The Cornerstone." Concluding the evening was Mrs. Gardner's response on "How to Proceed with the Construction of our Building."

The ritual service and installation of officers followed Sunday morning's "Zeta Tau Alpha breakfast," which was held on May 5 in the Windsor Room of the Royal Alexandra. That afternoon the chapter entertained at tea in their suite

in the Trevere Apartments, then on Monday morning Dorothy Claus gave the officers their instructions and told them "all about Alpha Tau, their nearest chapter."

The Gold Room of the Royal Alexandra was the scene of the installation reception that afternoon. Receiving were Mrs. C. K. Newcombe, a patroness, Mrs. Gardner, Dorothy Claus, Gladys Bain and Dorothy Crerar. "Our guests were obliged to leave immediately after the reception," the historian explained. "Their stay in Winnipeg was very short." She concluded with Beta Rho's hope that "we may mean as much to Zeta Tau Alpha as our beloved fraternity means to us."

Thus was a link named Canada forged in the ever-lengthening Zeta chain of chapters, which by this time reached beyond the boundaries of the United States into the friendly country across the border to the north. And Zeta Tau Alpha became international in scope, while through the close ties of fraternity, the Zetas in the Dominion joined those in the United States as members of one large family bound by the same ties and loyalties, embodied in the badge they all wore in common.

Well organized and auspiciously launched, Zeta Tau Alpha became the fourth national group for women at Manitoba, taking its place with Gamma Phi Beta, Kappa Kappa Gamma and Alpha Phi.

**BETA SIGMA:** When Zeta Tau Alpha placed its second chapter in the state of Tennessee, at Southwestern University, it entered another institution with an antebellum background of determining factor. Originally founded in 1848, the Montgomery Masonic College (sponsored by the Masonic Grand Lodge of Tennessee) became Stewart College in 1855, a synodical institution of the Presbyterian Church.

Facing extensive rehabilitation following occupation by Federal troops during the War Between the States, Stewart College became Southwestern Presbyterian University in 1874 (owned and operated by the Presbyterian Church in the Southwest). It was moved from Clarksville to Memphis in September, 1925.

Soon after, "on the afternoon of January 8, 1926, a group of seven Southwestern girls met at the home of Iola Shepherd (Patton) for the purpose of organizing a local sorority. They were Peggy Tate (Storch), Martha Carnes, juniors; Iola Shepherd (Patton), Dorothy Eddins (Perry), sophomores; Harriette Frank, Lucille Curtis (Henry), Eleanor Forshay (Zahner), freshmen. Weekly meetings were decided upon and the following officers were elected: president, Iola Shepherd (Patton); vice-president, Harriette Frank; secretary, Dorothy Eddins (Perry); treasurer, Martha Carnes.

At the next meeting they chose the name Chi Alpha. "The Premier rose was selected as the flower, with blue and silver as the colors." At the third meeting

a constitution was adopted and announcement was made that the Panhellenic Association had officially recognized Chi Alpha and invited them to send representatives, with privileges equal to those of the national groups on the campus. Iola Shepherd and Peggy Tate were their first representatives.

Chi Alpha's members "had two main purposes in mind . . . namely, strengthening themselves on the campus and becoming national. Of course," they continued, "the former was a necessary steppingstone to the latter, so it was decided that the remainder of the scholastic year should be spent establishing Chi Alpha on the campus. Scholastic standing was the high point to be striven for, with congeniality with the other groups as a second. Accordingly, the remainder of the year was spent in comparative quiet, the acquiring of a pledge service, an official prayer, and a ritual being the only events worthy of mention before college closed in June."

In September, 1926, however, "Chi Alpha became a center of activity." The long-debated question of a badge design was settled when they decided that "the official pin should be a vertical octagon, with the Greek letters XA in silver on a blue-enameled background." Then several girls were pledged in a successful rushing season: Marion Blalock, Frances Fisher, Mary Parker, Janie Cobb (Coleman), Catharine Richey (Hinton), Sara Moore (Whitley).

There was, however, another thing that had long been in the minds of the group and that was "a house, a home in which meetings and small parties might be held." Consequently, in October, 1926, when they found "a house with three rooms just off the campus, which exactly filled the requirements," the next three weeks witnessed "great activity in collecting furniture and rugs and preparing it for occupancy." A housewarming was held before the Christmas holidays.

Then during the winter of 1927, the Memphis Alumnæ of Zeta Tau Alpha heard of Chi Alpha. They invited the group to a tea. "From that time on," the story went, "it was the one hope and aim in the life of each Chi Alpha to become a Zeta Tau Alpha."

"But the crowning glory of the year 1926-1927, was the announcement that Chi Alpha had won the Kappa Alpha scholarship cup." Further, Chi Alpha outstripped the men's groups as well, standing "at the top of the organizations."

A Panhellenic ruling deferred rushing for six weeks in the fall of 1927, but those "weeks were profitably spent in refurnishing the house with new draperies and chairs." A successful rushing season "terminated in the pledging of Mary Helen Freeman (Beall), Mary Stewart (Glass), LeNeil McCullough (Broach), Nell Holloway, Lois Johnson, and Jean Goshorn."

When Christmas came they adopted a poor family and provided for it. Chi Alpha itself was delighted with the Memphis Alumnæ's gift of a set of coffee cups.

"At midterm," they pledged Janice Coke (Viser) and Helen Gill (McCaa).



Too, "during the winter and spring Chi Alpha came to know the Zeta Tau Alphas better, and they decided to communicate formally with Grand Chapter."

That year Chi Alpha again won the Kappa Alpha scholarship cup. They concluded at that juncture that "the past and the future seemed quite bright."

Mary Anderson, Rachel Baker, Mary Louise Currie (Lasher) and May White were pledged in the fall of 1928, after a deferred rushing season of eight weeks.

Soon after, the president of Beta province, Elizabeth Stone, Alpha Nu, came from Birmingham for a visit that constituted their informal inspection. A highly successful visit, she "helped them with the scrapbook (for their formal petition), and surely gave them a sample of the true Zeta Tau Alpha spirit."

After Miss Stone's favorable report, the formal inspection was made in January by Bernice Kirkham (Terry), Grand Secretary-Treasurer. The Chi Alphas "were excited almost to death, but they received pleasure and a great deal of practical help from her visit." When news of their charter grant reached them via the telegram route on March 15, they could only say that "words cannot express our thrill and overwhelming joy . . . after months and months of waiting." Preparations began immediately for a May installation.

All of Beta Sigma's installation services were held in the ballroom of Jeanette Spann's home. After pledging on May 15, 1929, "there followed three days of seething activity," Virginia Sellers (Webb), Zeta, wrote.

They filled out forms and absorbed general instructions. "Thursday morning, one of the Memphis Zetas, Mrs. Phil Canale (Martha Doyle), entertained at a small luncheon party at the Hotel Peabody. That afternoon the poet laureate of the South, Virginia Frazer Boyle, honored Zeta's President with a reception in her home, to which members of the faculty and representatives of other women's fraternities were invited." The dinner given that evening at the Parkview Hotel by the Memphis Alumnæ had as its theme the "Zeta Gardens," and it "was lovely from beginning to end."

Friday morning was claimed by examinations. At noon the college chapter entertained at luncheon at The Little Tea Shoppe, where, in addition to Mrs. Gardner, a special guest was Mrs. J. G. Caden (Margaret Blake), Memphis Alumnæ's new president.

That afternoon "the Chi Omegas had us all over to their lodge for tea," then at six o'clock the initiation services began. Those who became charter members of Beta Sigma were: Virginia Frazer (Boyle), Sara Moore (Whitley), Helen Gill (McCaa), Iola Shepherd (Patton), Harriette Frank, Eleanor Forshay (Zahner), Mary Anderson, Mary Stewart (Glass), Dorothy Eddins (Perry), Lucille Curtis (Henry), Mary Helen Freeman (Beall), Rachel Baker, Mary Louise Currie (Lasher), May White, Josephine Zimmerman (Price), Janice Coke (Viser), Margaret Williams, Lois Johnson, Frances Fisher, Catharine

Richey (Hinton), Janie Cobb (Coleman), LeNeil McCullough (Broach), and Jeanette Spann. The installing officer was Bertha Cruse (Gardner), assisted by Virginia Sellers (Webb), Zeta, of the Memphis Alumnæ, and Helen McDonald (Watson), Zeta; Gertrude McDonald (Brown), Zeta; Mary Grace Heister (Newton), Mu; Grace Musser (Zook), Omicron; Irene Johnston (Bell), Zeta; Erin Blake (Caden), Beta.

Installation of officers and the ritual service were held Saturday morning. Installed were: Sara Moore (Whitley), president; Lois Johnson, vice-president; Margaret Williams, secretary; Mary Helen Freeman (Beall), treasurer; Janice Coke (Viser), historian; Josephine Zimmerman (Price), guard. Then Virginia Sellers (Webb), who had so capably assisted with the installation service, entertained with a luncheon for the group. That afternoon, "Kappa Delta entertained Beta Sigma with a tea, which was a lovely affair," they wrote. They noted that the Zeta Tau Alpha colors predominated in the decorations.

When, "on Saturday evening, May 19, the newly installed chapter was hostess at a formal dinner at the Hotel Peabody," they commented that "the following program proved very interesting and amusing: 'Toast to Zeta Tau Alpha,' Mrs. Caden; Poem, 'Tennessee,' Virginia Frazer Boyle; 'History of the Memphis Alumnæ Chapter,' Mrs. Bell; 'History of Chi Alpha,' Iola Shepherd (Patton); 'Toast to Beta Sigma,' Helen Gill (McCaa); 'Greetings from Grand Chapter,' Bertha Cruse Gardner; 'Skit; Rushing in the Past, Present and Future,' by members of the new chapter." The skit undoubtedly was the "amusing" feature among the more serious talks.

The leather bookmark favors bore the coat-of-arms and the member's name tooled in leather. The banquet table was arranged in the form of a Z.

At Sunday morning's breakfast at the Parkview Hotel, "all the gladdening telegrams and notes of congratulations were read," and after an "informal talk" by Mrs. Gardner, they went to church at one of the "pride spots" of Memphis, the newly constructed Idlewild Presbyterian Church. The installing officer left that night but still ahead was an enormously ambitious project, for on Wednesday night, May 22, "Beta Sigma entertained the Southwestern student body at a dance at the Nineteenth Century Club, of Memphis—a gala occasion, indeed." While other chapters had entertained extensively, Beta Sigma was the first to be hostess to the entire student body. The week following installation, Alpha Omicron Pi honored the new chapter with a tea.

The chapter felt "great pride and also keen pleasure in having Virginia Frazer Boyle," the South's beloved poet laureate, initiated with them and they commented modestly that "we hardly believe many chapters can boast of such an illustrious person as a friend."

Zeta Tau Alpha was the fourth national fraternity for women on the Southwestern campus.

BETA TAU: Nearing the close of the year 1929, Zeta Tau Alpha established its second chapter in the state of Michigan when it absorbed an old and distinguished local organization of established reputation and prestige in Albion, Michigan.

On the site of an old Indian village, in 1835, was founded the Spring Arbor Seminary, the ancestor of Albion College, which, by 1929, had grown to be "the largest college in Michigan, exclusive of the large state institutions." Two Methodist ministers and a physician were responsible for its establishment, with Albion continuing its Methodist affiliation.

However, by 1913 there were "only two national organizations for women" on the campus and "so few girls were able to enjoy their privileges that fifteen girls decided to organize a new group." In that group were Mildred Ostrander, Hazel Miller (Scalf), Etha Nagler, Melva Nagler, Sophie Anderson, Grace Kirkpatrick, Julia Morse (Niel), Pauline Cuddy, Marjorie Browning, Ruth Ransom (Stephenson), Theo Carmen (Hungerford) and Irene Wightman.

They chose the name *Clonian* for Clio, the Greek muse of history, and on May 16, 1913, the group officially announced itself as the Clonian Literary Society. Invaluable organization assistance was given by the dean of women, Mrs. Helen Knappen Scripps. Their first meeting place was North Hall.

Clonian flourished for several years. Then came the war and the group's decision to confine their thoughts to the most "serious aspects" of life. Accordingly, the society disbanded, but a few years after the war's termination, in 1923, Clonian reorganized as a sorority and a short time later it was admitted to the local Panhellenic Council. Three years later, in 1926, Clonian moved into its first home when it "occupied an attractive apartment on Burr Oak Street," which was maintained as a lodge.

In a short time, when they began to think about national affiliation, "Clonian became interested in Zeta Tau Alpha through a Delta Delta Delta from the University of Tennessee, who recommended it very highly." Miriam Risser, Alpha Phi, was sent from Evanston, Illinois, to make the preliminary visit February 10-11, 1928, and after her high recommendation the group "was put on the petitioning list on July 2, 1928."

When the National Inspector, Mildred Spragg (Boyd), made the formal inspection February 9-10, 1929, there was an informal banquet at Parker Inn, and a breakfast served at the lodge, while they listened eagerly to the things she told them about Zeta Tau Alpha.

When the charter-grant-telegram of April 12 broke the suspense of weeks of waiting, "a party celebrating the event was given by Mrs. Thomas Carter (Frances Berry), who was then a patroness,\* and announcement was made to the other fraternities that a new national had arrived on the campus." Express-

\* Frances Berry Carter later became an initiated member.



ing their appreciation of the "invaluable aid" she gave them "in going national," a silver tray was presented to Audrey Wilder, a member of the faculty.

But Clionian's gain was also Zeta Tau Alpha's gain, for by this time the society boasted many alumnæ who "had distinguished themselves in the outside world." Several were in the foreign service of the Methodist Church as teachers or missionaries, among them prominent Geraldine Townsend (Fitch), a long-time resident of China who became nationally known as an author, lecturer and authority on that country and the Far East. In 1929, Dr. Frances L. MacCraken was an assistant professor in the department of physiotherapy and was acting dean of women in the Detroit College of Medicine and Surgery, as well as medical examiner of women in the Detroit public schools. Mabel Mather, who graduated with honors and won the Latin scholarship to the University of Michigan, was head of the Latin department of the Sault Ste. Marie High School; while Lorraine Bennett, the 1922 class salutatorian, was teaching in a mission school at Lucknow, India. Mary Moulton, YWCA president the same year, was teaching in Otsego. Mildred Ostrander was a pathology instructor at the Detroit College of Medicine and Surgery. Etha Nagler had been teaching in the Methodist Girls' School in Nanking for five years.

In fact, Clionian's members were consistently prominent and active in college activities and organizations, furnishing "many of the members of Delta Sigma Rho, national forensic fraternity, and Phi Gamma, local scholastic fraternity. Offices held through the years included: YWCA president (Geraldine Townsend and Mary Alice Parsons); W.A.A. president; two editors of the dormitory annual; vice-president and secretary of the Women's Self-Government Association."

"That Clionian has always ranked high in scholarship is evidenced by the fact that in the past twelve semesters we have eight times stood first among the women's fraternities," said a 1929 account. "We now have, for the third time, the faculty scholarship cup awarded to the men or women's organization having the highest average."

At the time of installation, Ethel Mae Kennedy was the only woman member of Alpha Phi Gamma, Albion's honorary journalism fraternity. Phyllis Walworth (Heaton) was president of the Women's Athletic Association; Allene Day was president of the Mathematics Club; Carol Hart (Sarah) was a member of the Varsity debate squad as well as associate editor of the college annual, a member of the Y.W.C.A. cabinet and the Student Senate. Marion Thornton (Good), also a member of the debate squad and the Y.W.C.A. cabinet, was debate and oratory editor of the college annual. She had the "distinction of placing highest in the freshman women's intelligence test" the previous year.

Thus, with sixteen years of proud organization life behind it, the backing of strong, outstanding alumnæ, and a college chapter of superior quality and achievements, Clionian brought its rich gifts to Zeta Tau Alpha. "When the

memorable week end of November 1 arrived, the excitement of the annual college homecoming being held at that time" was overshadowed "by a greater event—that of installation," they wrote.

The "full week end's first event was a formal tea on November 1, at the Kappa Delta lodge" which was graciously donated for Zeta's use during installation. In the receiving line were Bertha Cruse (Gardner), Grand President; Miss Marian Gray, dean of women; Ethel Mae Kennedy (Miles), the chapter president; Estella Gillette (Moulton), honorary member, and Mrs. Thomas Carter, their invaluable patroness.

At the pledging ceremonies that night, Mrs. Gardner was assisted by Mildred Davis (Barr), Alpha Phi-Alpha Gamma.

The following morning, "when all examination papers had been completed," initiation started at nine o'clock for thirty new members: Alice Bird (Thirlby), Allene Day, Carol Hart (Sarah), Ethel Mae Kennedy (Miles), Altha E. R. Kidder (Kincaid), Wanda Lear (Merchant), Florence Marion Lindsay (Crooks), Margaret Reed (Deinzer), Doris Ritter (Hembdt), Marion Thornton (Good), Phyllis Walworth (Heaton), Annamarie Garlanger, college members. Frances L. MacCraken, Florence Bovee (Somerton), Dorothy Tichenor (Branaman), Doris Redmon (Collette), Ruth Douglass (Smith), Ruth Hall (Le Gro), Eva Irene Kennedy (Avery), Sara Kerr, Hazel Miller (Scalf), Mildred Ostrander, Charlotte La Masters (Parkhurst), Mary Alice Parsons (Watters), Mildred Price (Rudig), Gianetta Pray (Halstead), Pauline Smith, Edith Bently (Strait), Carol Stutz (Babcock), Estelle Gillette (Moulton), alumnae.

Nine Alpha Gammas went to Albion to assist: "Sallie Buckley (Bond), Mildred Davis (Barr), Dorothy Kirby (Butler), May Neef, Emma Goodwillie (Fisher), Helen Kagay (Prophet), Marguerite Roby (Davidson), Dorothy Straub and Cornelia Walker."

Busy with their Homecoming float during initiation, the pledges served lunch at three o'clock when the ceremonies were over.

Then that night "thirty proud wearers of the gold-and-pearl shield gathered with their pledges and visitors for the formal installation banquet," the theme of which was "Our Zeta Treasure Chest." In her introductory speech, "The Chest is Opened," Gianetta Pray (Halstead), the toastmistress, produced a small chest and took out its contents one by one as she called on the speakers. Estella Moulton, Mary Moulton's mother, spoke on "Old Gold and Pearls," and Dean Gray's subject was "Hidden Manuscripts." Frances Berry (Carter) continued with "Zeta Dreams," while Gwendoline Jones (Whipple), a pledge, spoke on "Our Pledge." "A Zeta Tribute" was given by Audrey Wilder. Concluding the toasts was Mrs. Gardner's "The Golden Link."

Many were the gifts bestowed that night. Dr. MacCraken presented "a picture of white violets painted by her grandmother, a charming woman eighty-five years of age." Kappa Delta and Alpha Chi Omega sent silver plates

and the president, Ethel Mae Kennedy (Niles), "presented a Z T A skin to the chapter."

Ritual and installation of officers were held at the Zeta lodge the next morning following a seven-o'clock breakfast. Beta Tau's first officers were Ethel Mae Kennedy, president; Phyllis Walworth, vice-president; Marion Thornton, secretary; Carol Hart, treasurer; Alice Bird, historian; Allene Day, guard. After attending church in a body, Mrs. Gardner instructed the new officers in their duties.

As "the great event went into history," Beta Tau basked in the warmth of the welcome it received from faculty and campus friends, while "the messages of congratulations received" from Zetas and chapters everywhere were a thrilling experience. Kappa Delta's cooperation was signally mentioned. Zeta Tau Alpha became Albion College's fifth fraternity for women.

**BETA UPSILON:** A year and a half elapsed before another installation took place, but when, in 1931, Beta Upsilon came into being at Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kansas, its establishment climaxed long years of devoted work toward a designated goal by a persevering petitioning group.

As early as 1857, when the buffaloes were numerous in the northern part of Riley county and less than three summers had bleached the roof of the first house west of the Blue River, an association was formed to build a college in or near Manhattan. It was to be under the control of the Methodist Episcopal church of Kansas and it was to be called the Bluemont Central College. The charter was approved in 1858, and that was the beginning of the college, which, through numerous trials and a change of name became the Kansas Agricultural College in 1862. In 1931, the name was again changed to Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science.

Ten years before that, however, "the foundations for Alpha Theta Chi were laid in May, 1921, when a group of girls who had become staunch friends within a literary society saw the advantage of an organized house over that of rooming separately." Soon a "few more girls were asked to join the group, a house and housemother were secured, and the following fall, Alpha Theta Chi was formally organized, although at the time, under the name of Klux."

In orderly fashion during the year "a constitution was drawn up, officers were elected, a pin was adopted, and the organization attained the status of a local sorority." Its home the first year was at 1018 Bluemont Street, "but as the organization grew, a home nearer the college was desired." The fall of 1922 saw them living at 1503 Fairchild Street. Then the next autumn they moved to 1709 Laramie Street, where they were living when Beta Upsilon was installed.

The name of Klux was retained for the first two years, and their membership rose from twelve to twenty-five. Progressing, "Klux rapidly attained a place,



and was given increasing recognition in college activities." But after a consultation with the dean of women and other members of the faculty in the spring of 1924, the name was changed to Alpha Theta Chi. "The organization," they reported, "was unchanged by this action; it merely gave us more social prestige."

The group next attained advanced status when seventeen members formed an *alumnæ* association three years later, in the fall of 1927. This association at once "became very active" and did "much to help the college group in every possible way." In fact, it was with the assistance "of the *alumnæ*, and the aid of the patronesses and advisers that Alpha Theta Chi petitioned Zeta Tau Alpha in the fall of 1928." Their first Zeta visitor was Dorothy Swaney (Hillix), Theta, president of Eta province, who went to Manhattan in December for an informal inspection.

In their first historical sketch the chapter remembered vividly that "after the informal inspection the girls waited eagerly for a report, and when it did come they found that they did not quite come up to the standards of Zeta Tau Alpha." While that was a setback, they did not give up; instead, there followed "years of hard work, striving to reach the goal" and the standards set. Election to the Senior Women's Panhellenic, in February, 1929, came at a strategic time, for it "gave the girls courage and new ambition."

That fall Alpha Theta Chi "began sending bi-monthly reports to Zeta Tau Alpha, but the news came later that Zeta Tau Alpha might not expand in this province." Understandably, they wrote that "the outlook was most discouraging" but "in the spring of 1930, Frances Schepp (Wilkie) prepared a scrapbook which was sent to Grand Chapter in June."

In the meantime, "many Alpha Theta Chis became outstanding on the hill. Alice Tribble (Peters), Phi Kappa Phi, was the 1928 president of Phi Alpha Mu. Gertrude Seyb (Emmert), Omicron Nu, was president of the important Home Economics Club. Roberta Oursler (Doty) was one of the six beauty queens in 1929-1930, while Ione Clothier (Masters) was the only freshman to make the Quill Club that year.

"Then, at a time when everyone needed encouragement, came the wire that Alpha Theta Chi had been granted a formal inspection." In December, 1930, the National Inspector, May Youngberg, arrived in Manhattan. After that "the girls waited eagerly, hardly daring to hope." But "at last, on April 3," the long-hoped-for wire arrived. Alpha Theta Chi had been granted a charter. "Things moved rapidly after that. . . ."

In fact "so many things took place in the days from Monday, May 4, until Friday, May 8, 1931, that not until several weeks later" were Beta Upsilon's charter members "able to realize that we had actually become (overnight) Zeta Tau Alphas," they wrote wonderingly. Occasional "glances at the beautiful shield each girl wore were necessary to convince her that it had not all been

a dream, but a beautiful reality instead," for Alpha Theta Chi travelled a long road and overcame many a discouragement before achieving that goal.

"Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. Hillix dined at the home of the Alpha Theta Chis at 1709 Laramie Street," on Monday evening following their afternoon arrival in Manhattan, they recorded. That "same evening examinations were taken, forms were filled out, and program plans were discussed."

The next day Lucile Rust and Amy Kelly, their prominent faculty members, were hostesses at a luncheon at the Gillette Hotel honoring the visiting officers, at which faculty women were the other guests.

Then on Tuesday evening pledge services were held at the chapter house "for forty-six girls who proudly wore the blue and gray square for twenty-four hours only."

The alumnae entertained Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. Hillix at luncheon the next day, then on Wednesday evening "the climax, the supreme moment for which all this preparation was being made," arrived. The new members to whom the "beautiful, impressive ceremony served to give a deeper realization of what Zeta Tau Alpha was to mean to them" sensed, "unconsciously, and certainly invisibly, the establishment of closer bonds of friendship." Installing Beta Upsilon was Zeta's President, Bertha Cruse (Gardner), assisted by Dorothy Swaney (Hillix) and members of Alpha Mu chapter.

Beta Upsilon's charter members were Lucile Osborn (Rust), Amy Kelly, installation initiates; Vera Peterson, Inez Hill (Kester), Winifred Johnson, Margaret Bierman, Elna Andrick, Gertrude Seyb (Emmert), Alice Tribble (Peters), Hazel Bland (Stanley), Margaret Lynch (Bayless), Jennie Karns, Esther Gould (Lydick), Edna Maxwell (Edwards), Dorothea Doty (Oursler), Frieda Oltjen, Roberta Oursler (Doty), Muriel Fulton (Alexander), Clara Gantenbein (Smith), Ione Clothier (Masters), Louie Britt (Rohler), Lillian Steinmeyer, Ruth Kimball (Murray), Faith Briscoe (Lee), Carol Briscoe (Mayberry), Lillian Haugsted (Pfeiffer), Virginia Anderson (Whitford), Gertrude Grider (Goddard), Josephine Trindle (Chandley), Olive Bland (King), Florence Burton (Barrows), Elsie Rand (Johnson), Wilma Jennings (Olander), Opal Gaddie, Frances Schepp (Wilkie), Ruby Stover (Connell), Margaret Foster (Davis), Blanche Myers (Peterson), Vera Alderman (Winston), Thelma Merwin (Hemker), Helen Parcels (Cessna) and Anna Jones (Walters). There were nineteen college members, twenty-one alumnae and the two faculty members.

Assisted by other members of the Washburn chapter, Helen Lyon, Alpha Mu, presided at Thursday morning's ritual service. The following officers were installed: Vera Peterson, president; Inez Hill, vice-president; Edna Maxwell, secretary; Margaret Bierman, treasurer; Elna Andrick, historian, and Winifred Johnson, guard.

"The tea table was beautiful with its silver and crystal appointments" when the chapter formally introduced the Grand President to townspeople, faculty

and the fraternities and sororities on the "Hill" that afternoon. In the evening the installation banquet was held at the Open Door Tea Room in the college cafeteria building.

Developing the theme of a "Journey Up the Hill," Edna Maxwell introduced the speakers: Mrs. Gardner; Maxine Hoffmann, a pledge; Winifred Johnson, college member; Margaret Foster (Davis), an alumna.

Friday night's dance at the Manhattan Country Club was "the finale to the week's activities," when "representatives from other Greek-letter groups were their guests."

As the eventful days grew to a close, Beta Upsilon remembered those who helped make those days a reality—their patronesses and honorary members, and "Dean Mary P. Van Zile, whose timely suggestions and interest merit and receive the sincere regard and thanks of the chapter." Altogether, they found the "transition from Alpha Theta Chi to Zeta Tau Alpha an experience never to be forgotten by any one of the forty-two members of the charter group."

The new chapter was the eleventh national fraternity for women at Manhattan.

BETA PHI: When, in January, 1932, *Themis* announced that a twenty-two-year-old local group at Michigan State College had become Zeta's seventieth link, the unusual story of the Sesames began to unfold.

In their own words, "The Sesame Literary Society had a most unique origin. A group of girls meeting quietly each week during 1909 and 1910, and calling themselves the Hermians, decided they would like official recognition and the wider opportunities, both socially and from a literary standpoint, that were accorded a regularly organized group."

Convinced, and their decision made, it would be accurate to call their next step unusual. "In order to give all girls not connected with any organized group an equal opportunity, the Hermians disbanded and each of these non-society women was permitted to list the names of ten girls with whom she felt she could be most congenial. The ten obtaining the most votes would form the nucleus of the new group. This ten added others to make a total of nineteen." And that was the way the new group was formed.

They took the name of Sigma, for a name beginning with an "S" was favored, and a design for a pin was drawn. But when the very new Sigmas petitioned the faculty for recognition under that name, they struck a snag. The petition was refused on the grounds that Greek-letter organizations were barred from the East Lansing campus. So the resourceful former Sigmas chose the new name of Sesame, "and on February 11, 1911, the charter was granted."

Organized originally as a literary group, "Sesame became the fifth local women's society of Michigan State College." At first, because "all members resided in the dormitory," they held their weekly meetings "in the girls' rooms,"



but "later the societies had a chapter room in the basement of the building, where both the business and literary meetings were held."

The group thrived. "Sesame's excellent scholarship soon won a high place for it on the campus." Not unexpectedly "a majority . . . were home economics students," many being members of the honorary, Omicron Nu. At Sesame's well-attended faculty receptions "clever literary programs were presented" and life continued at that tempo for some eleven years.

When national fraternities were permitted in 1922, and women were allowed to have houses for the first time, the Sesames soon moved into a chapter house. "Later," they wrote in 1932, "we moved to our present location at 445 Abbott Road, which we have occupied for five years." The house was adequate and the chapter was comfortable and prosperous. And all over the country the alumnæ carved distinguished records for themselves in their professions.

Reviewing the chapter's history at that time, Sesame was proud that it "had the captaincy and many members on the rifle team, reporters on the *Michigan State News*, Women's Athletic Association members, and last year had both the presidency and treasurership. The chapter now has the campus tennis, hockey and baseball plaques. Last year, Sesame held the Panhellenic presidency. There have been many members of Sphinx, honorary women's activity society, YWCA cabinet, La Cofradia (local Spanish honorary), the Home Economics Club, Tau Sigma (honorary arts and science fraternity), and representatives on the J-Hgs and senior committees." Beatrice Brody, president of Mu Phi Epsilon, received the Louis Graveure voice scholarship, while Beulah Woodland Young, Mu Phi Epsilon's vice-president, received the Lewis Richards scholarship in piano.

While the group had enjoyed a superior rating and a strong local existence, a new pattern in organization life was set when the first national came on the campus. Inevitably Sesame's eyes turned in that direction and there were Zetas close at hand, too. They "became interested in Zeta Tau Alpha in the spring of 1930 mainly through . . . Mildred Davis (Barr), Alpha Phi-Alpha Gamma, of Lansing." After sending a petition to the national organization in May they "eagerly awaited word" as to an informal inspection. That was granted and "starting on December 7, 1930," Helen Kagay (Prophet), Alpha Gamma, who lived in East Lansing, made the informal inspection. Following her expectedly favorable report the National Inspector, May Youngberg, visited the group for its formal inspection on March 20, 1931. After many anxious weeks, word of their charter grant came in May. Installation was to be in the fall.

Memorable was the fact that Beta Phi's installation ceremonies began on Founders' Day, "the thirty-third birthday of Zeta Tau Alpha." After the Lansing Alumnæ's dinner that night at the Hotel Olds, honoring Zeta's Grand President, Bertha Cruse (Gardner), the installing officer, and Helen Kagay

(Prophet), assistant installing officer, the alumnæ "conducted the Founders' Day service at the chapter house for the new initiates . . . an impressive beginning to their lives as Zetas."

The group's sincere preparation for their new affiliation was demonstrated when, in the fraternity examination, several wrote perfect papers, and all were above 90. It is not hard to picture their intentness that night as the President told them about Zeta Tau Alpha and the new Health Center.

The next day the Sesame Alumnæ entertained at luncheon. In the receiving line at the tea given in the afternoon at the chapter house were Sesame's president, Lillian Wright (Beyer); Mrs. Gardner; Mrs. Prophet and Mrs. Henry E. Publow (Hazel Powell), a Sesame charter member. After the tea, Bertha Gardner and Helen Prophet pledged twenty-nine Sesames.

Then "on Saturday morning came the fulfillment of dreams"—the wearing of the Zeta Tau Alpha badge. Engraved in their hearts, "the . . . impressive initiation ceremony brought to every one the realization of the ideals which bind all members of Zeta Tau Alpha together." Initiation services for the college members and thirteen alumnæ were held in the People's Church. Assisting Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. Prophet were Albion Zetas from Beta Tau and the Lansing and Detroit Alumnæ chapters.<sup>5</sup> When they left for the buffet luncheon at the chapter house, the following had become charter members:

College members—Lillian Wright (Beyer), Christine Dynes (Becker), Norma Streeter (Hudson), Grace Gleiss (Parker), Faye Auble (Wiley), Carol Brody (Bielinski), Velda Fowler (Samppala), Guinevere Ivory (Bishee), Marion Kaechele (Tobin), Marion Larson (Berg), Peggy Marie Macomber (Teske), Helen Remmele (Keppel), Carol Simcock, June Vaughn (Davidige), Beulah Woodland (Young). Alumnæ—Bertha Van Orden (Baldwin), Beatrice Stewart (DeMond), Grace Harvey (McDonald), Marjorie Smith (Jewett), Jane Shotwell (Kerr), Helen Haight (Kiefer), Grace Holtrop (Pettigrove), Hazel Powell (Publow), Lucille Schnackenberg (Purdy), Lucille Siebald (Smith), Viola Strauch (Martin), Lee Irene Roth (Brown), Margaret Stevenson.

Grace Harvey McDonald, the Lansing Sesame's president, was the installation banquet's toastmistress that night. Held in the Union Memorial Building, seventy-five Zetas sat at banquet tables arranged "in the shape of a large Z, decorated with blue tapers and lovely flowers." Place cards bore silver Zeta seals; the programs were gray and blue.

After the toastmistress opened the program with "Open Sesame," the pledge president, Dorothy Shaw, spoke on "Before the Door"; Lillian Wright, chapter president, on "Joy of Discovery"; Dean Conrad on "Value of the Treasure"; Marie Die, dean of home economics, on "Using Zeta Wealth"; while Mrs. Gardner completed the program with "Keeping the Door Open." Beatrice Brody sang and Lillian Wright read letters and telegrams of greeting. They gave the President a hand-tooled leather book cover, and the banquet was over.

President Robert S. Shaw and Mrs. Shaw, Dean R. C. Huston and Mrs. Huston, Dean H. B. Dirks and Mrs. Dirks, and representatives from the men and women's fraternities were guests at the formal dance which followed. "An original piece, 'My Heart's For Sale,' was dedicated to the new chapter . . ." that night.

Sunday morning's ritual service at the chapter house was given by the visiting Alpha Gammas from the University of Michigan, with Mildred Davis Barr presiding. Then Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. Prophet installed Beta Phi's new officers: Lillian Wright, president; Christine Dynes, vice-president; Norma Streeter, secretary; Doris Streeter, treasurer; Grace Gleiss, historian, and Carol Simcock, guard. After attending church in a body, and dinner at the house, final officers' instructions wound up the last of the installation routine.

And on Monday, when the shield-wearing Zetas appeared on the campus, the ninth national fraternity for women was added to the East Lansing roster. The girls who asked for just a one-Greek-letter name in 1911 had acquired one with three. And Zeta had acquired a third chapter in the state of Michigan.

**BETA CHI:** The course of expansion next turned to St. Louis, Missouri, where, "late in the fall of 1922, a new type of organization, consisting of ten separate groups, and known as the Martha Washington Association, made its appearance upon the campus of Washington University." While expressed a bit differently, it was youth's invariable desire for banding together into close little units.

As Ruth Knobles put it: "It met a long-felt need, for the university was growing rapidly, and there were many girls who wanted the advantages of group life. While each group maintained its own standards and rules, the Association provided a means of discussion through a Council round table. An apartment was rented which all the groups used."

Six years made a difference, though, for in that time several of the groups disbanded, and others affiliated with national organizations until, in 1928, Modemar alone remained. "It was able to continue its existence because of its strong organization. Modemar's charter members were outstanding girls on the campus; they were devoted to Modemar and worked loyally for her welfare," the proud record ran.

Many prominent offices and honors were held by Modemar members. In its annals are records of the presidency of the Women's Self-Governing Association, the highest honor achievable by a woman; several presidents of the Women's Athletic Association; many proud wearers of the "W"; and an Engineer's Queen. All the honor societies had, at some time, been represented. In 1928, Modemar had ten seniors, among whom were three Phi Beta Kappas and one Sigma Xi, a superior record.

By the spring of 1929, however, the group decided that its "best interests



lay in the direction" of affiliation with a national organization, and Modemar's officers "entered upon correspondence with Zeta Tau Alpha."

When, in the late fall, Modemar petitioned Zeta Tau Alpha and was granted an informal inspection, "one of the members discovered that she lived in the same apartment house with Lois Chamberlain (Stout)," an Alpha Psi charter member. "From that time on," the chapter wrote, "we had someone to confide in—and only one who works with a local group can know the amazing amount of confidences that includes."

Backtracking at this juncture, a speech by Ann Fincher (Hemker) unfolds one of the most unusual stories that ever revolved around a local group. In her valuable account of Modemar's interesting evolution she told that

it all began with a dream—a dream of nine happy young coeds on Washington University campus. This was in 1924. To understand the dream I'll have to give you a picture of these girls. Combined, they were in almost every woman's activity on the campus. In fact, their activities were so numerous that I can't remember them all—so I've listed the things as I remember them: three members of Women's Council; three members on Y. W. Cabinet; five members in Peppers; two members in Thrysis (dramatic organization); a W.A.A. president and vice-president; a member in Mortar Board (senior honorary); two members in Ternion (junior honorary); members in the Women's Glee Club, Mandolin Club and Uke Club, and last but not least, an Engineer's Queen.

The nine were Etta Harkness, Anne Fincher (Hemker), Elizabeth McConkey, Frances Ottofy, Justine Ottofy, Anne Strassner, Jane Sante Studt, Agnes Smith, Elinor Walters.

Though all of these girls had been asked to join a sorority, they had all refused. They were having such a grand time that they couldn't imagine any girl having more fun, yet they saw other girls who were unhappy—non-sorority girls who seemed to have no particular, good friends. That is how their dream started. Their dream was to make every girl on the Washington University campus enjoy her college life to the fullest. They talked over the advantages and disadvantages of sororities and decided that sororities alone could not answer the need for all the girls. Then the idea of the Martha Washington Association was born. It was to include every girl in the University if she wished to join. It was to be divided into two groups: the Greek—which included the sororities on the campus; and the Roman—which was to be made up of ten groups of unaffiliated girls (each group to have not less than fifteen and not more than thirty.) The governing body of the M.W.A. was called the Correlate and was made up of one representative from each Greek and Roman group. The first fundamental difference between the Greek and Roman chapters was that of membership. Girls were received into the Greek chapters through request on the part of the chapter, and into the Roman chapters not only through request on the part of the chapter but through request on the part of any girl desiring to become a member of a chapter (if the quota was not filled).

After many plans, including the selection of nine other unaffiliated girls who were active on the campus and were necessary for the heads of other groups, the nine girls of our story presented their ideas to the dean and received her cooperation and that of the University. Eight of the original girls decided to stay in one group and call themselves Modemar, short for Modern Marthas. One outstanding girl left to head another group—Decalogue. The

names of the other groups were supposed to pertain to the name of Washington. Besides Modemar and Decalogue, there were Tricorn, Cherry Stone, Mana, Polonaise, Rachivall, Witonih, Themis and Typyn O'Bob.

Rushing parties were given and finally pledging. At this time our founders struck the first snag. The girls in Modemar were so well known that from fifty to sixty per cent of the girls rushed gave Modemar first preference. Because of the limited number of girls admitted to each group, there were many disappointments. Then many groups that did not have their quota had to accept girls who did not really fit in with their group. However, things were ironed out and the girls in Modemar had a wonderful time. Pledging was held at the country home of one of the founders. There was no Women's Building on the campus then, so Modemar rented a small house near the University. There many lovely parties were given.

When most of the Martha Washington founders had graduated, those who were left to carry on and the founders who were still there realized that the M.W.A. had been fine, but it had still failed. They finally decided it had failed for three reasons:

- a) No selectivity. It took more than just getting thirty girls together to make a lasting group. They needed girls who were congenial and had common objectives. Selectivity also carries exclusiveness.
- b) No national organization to give it permanence. They needed the help that comes from wise counsel of older people who have experienced the same problems. The Greeks were superior to the Romans because they had *alumnæ* who would help and give inspiration.
- c) No tradition. The M.W.A. Roman groups had not been in existence long enough to point to any record of achievement that would make the groups attractive to new girls.

The girls in Modemar realized that it would be many years before the local group could offer a girl what she could get from a sorority and so in order to remedy that, they formed a local sorority and called themselves Gamma Epsilon. Two other groups followed suit—one later becoming Delta Delta Delta and the other Alpha Xi Delta. Gamma Epsilon looked around for an outstanding fraternity to petition for national affiliation and found that Zeta Tau Alpha had everything they wanted. The president of Gamma Epsilon lived across the hall from a Zeta (Lois Stout), and together with the other members of the local chapter they worked long and hard. The *alumnæ* group of Zeta Tau Alpha in St. Louis became interested and was a marvelous help. Many life-long friends were made during this period of change.

After the April, 1930, informal inspection by Adelaide Hazeltine (Jones), Mu-Alpha Psi, the group sent its scrapbook to the 1930 preconvention Grand Chapter meeting. With joy they received word that recommendation had been made to the incoming Grand Chapter that Modemar be given a formal inspection.

Advised by Grand Chapter in May, 1930, to take a Greek name, on July 21, Modemar changed its name officially to Gamma Epsilon. Regular meetings were held through the summer "with much stress placed upon perfecting our organization in preparation for the formal inspection." When the St. Louis *Alumnæ* entertained them at a College Club musicale, they "were thrilled to meet real Zetas and to hear the lovely Zeta songs."

October brought news of that inspection, which was given December 12-17 by May E. Youngberg, National Inspector. "Then Gamma Epsilon settled down

to a period of hopeful waiting, but whether or not we received the favorable ballot of Grand Chapter, we realized that the inspection had been of value to us," they acknowledged.

"Under the existing university rules, it was thought necessary that Zeta Tau Alpha sponsor the group for another year and Lois Chamberlain (Stout) was appointed official sponsor." Meanwhile, members were winning coveted honors, and on August 19, 1931, Gamma Epsilon was invited to join the local Panhellenic, thus enabling the group to participate in the official rushing season. "Although we entered late, and had, of necessity, a difficult entertainment schedule, we had a successful rushing season and pledged ten girls." During the summer several Zetas attended their regular meetings and advised them.

"And good things kept happening," they exulted. "After two years we finally obtained a new room in the Women's Building, which houses all the women's fraternities. Each room has serving facilities. The possession of a room marked a forward step" in Gamma Epsilon's career, for it put the group "on an equal basis with the national organizations" on the campus.

During a visit of May Youngberg on October 9, a change in the former campus ruling requiring a year's sponsorship was "ascertained. There was no longer a need for a year's sponsorship." So, from then on "events moved swiftly," and on October 12, Gamma Epsilon received word that October 26-November 1 would be the installation dates. "This was done in order that Gamma Epsilon might have the advantage and singular honor of being installed at the time the National Panhellenic Congress was meeting in St. Louis, during the week of October 26," they explained.

"Thus closed our period of working and waiting and dreaming—the realization of our dearest hopes was at hand."

It is not surprising, then, that the next record speaks of "Beta Chi chapter, now an inspired, happy group," proud of the installation date that made it the first chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha to be installed during a National Panhellenic Congress.

On the night of October 26, Bertha Cruse (Gardner), Grand President, and Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Grand Editor-Historian, pledged thirty-six members of Gamma Epsilon, who thereby became eligible to attend the N.P.C. college meeting\* held at that session, and the banquet as local Zeta representatives. At the final banquet, when "each group rose in a body, it was found that the Zetas had the largest number present at this inspiring gathering of nearly 500 women."

Following the close of N.P.C., formal installation took place on October 31,

\* At the banquet the new Zetas met "five Zeta College Panhellenic presidents, from Washburn College, the University of Minnesota, the University of Cincinnati, Albion College and Kansas State College."



in the chapter room in the Women's Building, preceded by the installation tea\* given in the main lounge of the Women's Building. Those assisting Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. Strout with the initiation services that followed were Ethel Cruse (Mouton), Kappa; Leone Peel (Ramsey), Epsilon; Lois Chamberlain (Stout), Mary Coulter (Manlove), Eleanor Coulter, Gertrude Munsell (Haug), Marie Quernheim (Willis), Alpha Psi; Adelaide Hazeltine (Jones), Mu-Alpha Psi; Mary Taylor (Starck), Zeta; Margaret McIntyre (Lacey), Ella Higham (Miller), Alpha Kappa; Pauline Haseltine (Hurd), Mary Jane Dunnington, Mu; Margaret Howells (Phegley), Tau.

Those initiated were: College members—president, Ruth Knobles; vice-president, Pauline Pfeifer; secretary, Virginia McCloud; treasurer, Ethel Lytle (Bogdanor); historian, Marjorie Oechsle; Virginia Capps (Scally), Ruby Hill (McCall), Evelyn Koenig, Mary McGuire, Leona Payne, Mary Virginia Ruth, Dorothy Timmerhoff, Frances Wells (Ketterer). Alumnae: Anne Fincher (Hemker), Anne Ross, Claire Breckenridge (Miller), Gertrude Droste (Brueggeman), Aznif Korkoian, Florence Gray (Hogan), Ruth Manlove, Evelyn Patterson, Dorothy Ross, Edith Roy (Julyan), Marie Schlensker (Schwertz).

After Sunday morning's ritual service, given by Alpha Psi chapter, "Beta Chi was delightfully surprised to receive a Zeta shield from Mrs. Harry McIntyre, mother of Margaret McIntyre Lacey"—the chapter's first gift.

Zeta Tau Alpha was the eleventh N.P.C. fraternity to enter the campus, and Beta Chi was Zeta's third chapter in the state of Missouri.

BETA PSI: Stetson University, where Zeta Tau Alpha placed its second chapter in the state of Florida, is the oldest chartered degree-conferring college in Florida, having been chartered by the state legislature in 1887, eighteen years in advance of the University of Florida. Considered "unique in outside connections of value," its chief benefactor, John B. Stetson, envisioned a great Baptist university in the favorable Florida climate, similar to that envisioned by John D. Rockefeller for western Baptists at the University of Chicago.

Henry Deland established Deland Academy in 1883. Attendance grew steadily. He then built Deland Hall at his own expense and when the charter was granted, he gave the first \$10,000 for endowment. After John B. Stetson's visit in 1886, and his realization of the need for more capital, Mr. Deland proposed that the name of the institution be changed to that of John B. Stetson University. Mr. Stetson agreed and became a generous patron. The institution was coeducational from the start.

Sigma Alpha Phi, which became Beta Psi chapter, dates back to 1926 when

\* In the receiving line at the tea were Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. Strout, Dean Starbird, Mrs. Bartlett (hostess of the building), Mrs. Mouton, Mrs. Ramsey, Ruth Knobles and Mrs. Stout. "Guests were taken to the chapter rooms, which, towards the end of the tea, were prepared for the initiation service which began shortly." Another social event was the St. Louis Alumnae's dinner at the Castilla for the installing officers and the newly pledged Beta Chis.

Forrest May Talbot went to Stetson for her Master's degree, and in her words, "one of the professors asked me to organize another girls' fraternity after the fall rushing season." By that, it would be assumed that the three existing nationals (Pi Beta Phi, Delta Delta Delta and Alpha Xi Delta) were inadequate to accommodate or absorb the number of college women desiring fraternity affiliation, and that assumption would be correct.

So Forrest May Talbot invited nine girls, all of whom lived in town, to her home one evening "if they were interested in organizing another fraternity." They were interested. They came. And on the evening of January 21, 1927, "they organized and elected the following officers: president, Forrest May Talbot; vice-president, Clarice Wade; recording secretary, Mary Wheeler; corresponding secretary, Minnie Chalfin; treasurer, Anna Van Ness." The roster of charter members read: Forrest May Talbot, Aline Harper (Young), Clarice Wade, Kayte Houseman, Mary Wheeler, Anna Van Ness, Minnie Chalfin, Christine Carpenter (Black), Mary Gibbs (Welles).

Sigma Alpha Phi's "purposes were embodied in four ideals—intellectual growth, physical well-being, social fitness and moral upbuilding." A constitution and ritual were drawn up. The colors adopted were Nile green and mulberry. The flowers were the English (purple) violet and Madam Drew rose, although in later years the chapter listed the Ophelia rose instead. Committees appointed chose the name, selected the flowers and colors, and handled the pin selection, while another wrote the initiation and pledge service.

On February 10, 1927, "in the art room of Elizabeth Hall," the university president, Dr. Lincoln Hulley, and Mrs. Hulley welcomed the new group "as a fraternity" and that same night "Nile green and mulberry ribbons" were presented to three (dormitory) girls (Ruth Baker, Lorna Simpson and Tommy Thorpe). They "had voted to pledge on our organization night. The next morning, on February 11, Dr. Hulley announced Sigma Alpha Phi in chapel." Panhellenic immediately admitted the new group, "so we were under their rules," Forrest May Talbot wrote.

They plunged in. A party at Daytona Beach for their pledges came first on February 19. Then on March 17 a tea at Forrest May Talbot's home honored the new patrons and patronesses they had promptly chosen. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wilson, Mrs. Robert Allen, and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Geddes entertained them in return. Sally Gwinn and Dorothea DeRoo were pledged before Sigma Alpha Phi's house party (on West Minnesota Avenue) during which they gave a dinner for their patrons and patronesses, their professors and their wives and the dean of women. They received 225 guests at the open house held during the house party.

Before the year was over they had their pins. Early members remember that they cost eleven dollars. They also designed a pledge pin which they ordered the next year. Later they wondered what became of their "robes and

the old initiation service," for they had them, and their first initiation service was held at the home of Mary Gibbs, on Rich Avenue. And because Forrest May Talbot personally kept a history of that first year, the "chicken salad, ice cream and banana cake" served at the post-initiation "banquet supper at Mary's," went down on the record.

Five pledges were added about the time the pins were acquired. At the end of the college year, two others were pledged. "They were town girls, too. And the reason we could work so fast," Forrest May explained, "was because we were not under dormitory rules and could call a meeting at midnight, if necessary."

Well organized and with abundant initiative, during Sigma Alpha Phi's history the chapter amassed honors<sup>6</sup> that brought it to a high peak of prominence and influence, with members receiving leading honors in campus activities and organizations. In eight years, sixty-nine members were initiated, and with established strength, thoughts turned to affiliation with a national organization.

Vinola Sala (Woodward), Theta (whose mother was Laura Ash Sala, a charter member of Theta chapter), interested the group in Zeta. And there was also Violet Bortz (Clark), Chi. Both lived in DeLand.

Grace Ryan (Raub), Sigma, from nearby Daytona Beach, made the official visit to the chapter, and "when the university opened on September 12, 1934, members greeted each other with, 'We'll be Zetas in a month.'"

Meanwhile, in pursuance of a new Grand Chapter policy of giving strengthening and preparatory assistance to brand-new chapters, Alice Lee Swain (Winberg), Epsilon, "Zeta's first coorganizer, was selected to be the chapter's mentor in the first year of its national life. She immediately became a part of our number," they wrote, "and led us as we tried to calm ourselves to the extent of planning a formal party and yacht ride"—so excited were they over the prospect of becoming Zetas. In the meantime, twenty pledges were added at the end of the fall rushing season and "from that date (October 8) every active and pledge became altogether Zeta-minded.

"With lovely green bamboo used effectively for decorative purposes," Beta Psi chapter was installed on October 13, 1943, by Dorothy Swaney (Hillix), Grand President, assisted\* by Alice Lee Swain (Winberg), Epsilon; Grace Ryan (Raub), Sigma; Evelyn Stump, Beta Gamma; Violet Bortz (Clark), Chi; Vinola Sala (Woodward), Theta. The afternoon pledging took place after Mrs. Hillix's arrival on October 12, at the home of Catherine Howarth (Carter), a Sigma Alpha Phi pledge who was later initiated by Beta Alpha chapter.

Initiated at the Howarth home were: College members—Moise Williams

\* Other "guests assisting were: Ada Woodward; Margaret Marshall (Weichet); Sora Embry (Coulter); Sallie Embry (Massey); Mary Newton Green (McConnaughay); Florence Hall (Campbell), Beta Gamma; Juanita Hannah (Wallace), Beta Pi-Beta Gamma."



(Mills); Pauline McFarland (Welshinger); Edna Alderman (Lee); Claudia Osborne (Hamrick); Evelyn Burhans; Margaret Johnson; Elizabeth Brooks (Payne); Etter Turner. Alumnæ: Sallie Mae Edwards (Baldwin), Charlene Scott (Goodman), Margaret Ogilvie, Mary Gibbs (Wells), Evelyn Cox, Eleanor Spofford (Plotts), Forrest May Talbot, Mildred Carl, Ida Mae Cocowitch.

After "the impressive service the pledges served a luncheon at the home of Moise Williams." Following the installation reception that afternoon, at which the new group received their friends in the chapter room, "Delta Sigma Phi entertained Mrs. Hillix and the newly initiated Zetas in their attractive new fraternity house."

The theme of the evening's installation banquet held at the Putnam Hotel was "Launching the New Ship," with dynamic Alice Lee Swain (Winberg) as the toastmistress. "Two of Alpha Sigma Phi's founders, Forrest May Talbot and Mary Gibbs, told of 'Putting out to Sea' and expressed the visions held by those . . . of '26." Other program participants were Margaret Hawes, pledge, Claudia Osborn and Pauline McFarland. "Aspirations attained" were sketched by Etter Turner, chapter president, after which "Mrs. Hillix officially welcomed them into Zeta Tau Alpha." "It was a long day," Dorothy Hillix wrote, "but Stetson rules permitted no social functions on Sunday."

Lovely were the university chimes the next morning when they played "Pride of Our Hearts" just as the new group assembled in the chapter room for ritual service. "Following this they attended the Baptist Church" where blue and gray ribbons roped off the center section reserved for the Zetas, and "Zeta colors were used in the flower decorations."

Installation of officers followed dinner at the Lexington Hotel for Beta Psi and its guests, with Mrs. Hillix and Alice Lee Swain Winberg officiating. Beta Psi's first officers were: president, Etter Turner; vice-president, Moise Williams; secretary, Pauline McFarland; treasurer, Claudia Osborne; historian, Edna Alderman; guard, Evelyn Burhans.

Then came the whirlwind windup to the tightly scheduled week end when, "due to many last-minute instructions and conferences, twenty pledges and eight actives had to literally hold the train while Mrs. Hillix rushed madly to the railroad station with a coat in one hand, a hat in the other, and suitcases all over her."

The "excitement and joy on the face of every girl" then crystallized into a steady glow of happiness "because she had become a part of this great . . . fraternity."

**BETA OMEGA:** Just as it was 1929 before Zeta achieved the chapter in Canada envisioned by the early Alpha planners, so it was 1936 before a chapter first discussed thirty-three years previously became a reality at Union University.

When the March, 1936, issue of *Themis* introduced Beta Omega chapter, the National Historian revealed an almost forgotten and little-known hope of 1903. "That early members of Alpha chapter seriously considered the possibility of establishing a chapter at Union University is attested by the minutes of a meeting held on October 28, 1903, when action looking toward the placing of chapters at both Union and the University of Tennessee was decided upon. . . . The following spring, on June 14, 1904, Zeta chapter was installed at the University of Tennessee, but it was not until thirty-three years later that the early discussed Union College chapter came into being," *Themis* said.

Why were the early Zetas interested in Union? Its origin and traditions may explain that.

Union University, the descendant and heir of two earlier institutions (West Tennessee College, established at Jackson in 1834 as an academy, and Union University established in 1845 at Murfreesboro by the Tennessee Baptist General Assembly), had its inception in the provisions of the North Carolina compact, which ceded Tennessee to the United States government to be made into a new state. Two colleges, one each in East and West Tennessee, were then to be established. President James L. Polk signed the 1846 charter granted by an Act of Congress, while the charter was also granted upon the authority of an Act of the Tennessee legislature, Aaron Brown being the governor.

During the years 1861-1866, operation of the college was suspended because of the War Between the States. In 1874, the Murfreesboro institution was moved to Jackson. The next year the state of Tennessee donated the property of West Tennessee College to Union University and in the same year, "because of prejudices existing in the South following the war, the name was changed to South-western Baptist University." The title held until 1907, when the name, Union University, was restored.

Such a college was part of the picture well known to and harmonious with the aims and ideals of the first Zetas.

Fraternalities came early to Union University; Sigma Alpha Epsilon before the war in 1857; Alpha Tau Omega in 1867. Women not being predominant, there was no organization for them until the advent of Chi Omega in 1924. It was eight years before there was more than one. And one was not enough. Aware of the situation, the faculty took action. Of this the petitioning girls wrote:

"Until March, 1932, there were only three social fraternities on Union University campus—Alpha Tau Omega, Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Chi Omega. The first two fraternities for boys were considered sufficient to satisfy the fraternal needs of the young men," but one group for women was inadequate.

Deciding that "another sorority should be organized," in 1931-1932 the faculty asked the acting president, Dr. A. W. Prince, to bring the matter to

the attention of the board of trustees." They acted favorably upon the faculty's recommendations. Dr. Prince then "appointed two secret committees whose duties were to choose and submit to the faculty the names of twelve non-sorority girls who, when passed on by the faculty, should become charter members of the new sorority." When the two committees submitted their names "it was found that there was almost perfect agreement between them.

"On March 17, 1932, these girls were called together by Dr. Prince." Explaining, he "told them the wishes of the faculty and left them to organize." The officers they elected were: Hazel Ellis, president; Sara Patrick, vice-president; Sara Elston, secretary; Annie Dee Rice (Davis), corresponding secretary; and Elizabeth Sliman (Elias), treasurer. Various committees were appointed to select a suitable name; to secure a fraternity room such as the three other fraternities had; to write "a constitution, initiation, and pledging ceremony, and opening and closing exercise"; and to select "colors, flower and other symbols."

These committees worked diligently for days. "When the last one made its report the group began to feel itself rather well organized." As a result of their study, the name Zeta Gamma was adopted. The badge adopted was a jewelled (pearls) yellow-gold Zeta superimposed upon a Gamma. The pledge pin was a silver crescent bearing the letters Zeta Gamma in blue. "A large room in the Administration Building was secured, redecorated and furnished." And "about this time" the faculty chose Miss Onnie Skinner as Zeta Gamma's sponsor and faculty adviser.

The new group was founded "upon ideals of loyalty, chastity, purity and beauty. Live faithfully," was the open motto. Hazel Ellis, Naomi Mynatt (Lehmberg), Eloine Newman (Vaughn), Kathryn Moore, Elizabeth Sliman (Elias), Martha McClure, Sarah Elston, Mary Louise Smith (Warren), Sarah Patrick, Virginia Harris, Annie Dee Rice (Davis), Blanche Young and Onnie Skinner, were the charter members.

"Although the founders had in mind no particular national fraternity with which they might later affiliate, the colors, flower and other insignia could hardly have been more similar to those of Zeta. . . ." Their colors were blue and silver, their flower the white rosebud. And on campus they were called the Zetas.

Immediately a force on the campus, Zeta Gamma at once "pledged a group of fine girls, some to be initiated before the close of the 1932 spring quarter," the others to be initiated the following fall. Eleven pledges resulted from the 1932 fall rushing season; 1933 saw thirteen pledged, while 1934 listed seventeen. "A good many girls have been pledged at other times than at the annual pledging season," they mentioned.

Word got around of this splendid group. When Zeta Gamma petitioned, they wrote that one of their alumnæ heard from a member of Zeta chapter



at the University of Tennessee, asking her to get in touch with Alice Porter (Moore), Zeta, president of Beta province. "We did so," they said, "and she seemed interested. Some of the members of Beta Sigma chapter visited us informally, and by this time we were thoroughly interested in Zeta Tau Alpha."

Zeta Gamma was not destined to remain a local for long. Nor did the group want to. The lone local on the campus, their analyzation of this situation and the crystallization of their thoughts were thoughtfully explained in their petition. They wrote:

A local fraternity, though it be strong in its own community, is nevertheless a local—secondary in importance to a national fraternity and with no particular standing or prestige outside its own college. If it is a wide-awake, far-seeing local it is eager to expand—to link itself with a national.

For in becoming a part of a national fraternity, the group benefits by an enlarged world, with opportunity for constant contact in life with members of one's own fraternity who will extend their cooperation and friendship—who will accept one at face value because of the fraternity pin one wears. Membership in a national fraternity offers contact with other schools, presents frequent opportunity for meeting people of achievement, and opens up life-long and world-wide doors to worth-while circles.

On this campus where there is one local group among other national groups, the local desires to become national in order that it may stand on an equal basis with the other groups . . . that it may benefit as a national fraternity in the fair competition which it may then expect.

While fraternity life in a local group is a wonderful experience, the *good* fraternity member is one who strives always for fraternal life in a broader sense—for membership in a national. The ritual of a national fraternity—significant in that it is likely to make upon the alert and plastic mind of youth definite and distinct impressions which may stimulate his thought and direct his actions—is certainly of more benefit than the ritual of the local group. The former has been thought out by experienced minds, has been enacted many, many times. The latter has been planned by a group not versed in such matters. If one is to benefit *at all* by the experiences of fraternity initiations and by the acceptance of certain symbols to be followed in the days and years ahead, then surely there is more benefit to be had from the ceremonial and ideals of a national fraternity than from those of a local.

And there is something to be gained from the thought that you are experiencing what others have experienced before you—that you, in taking the vows of a national fraternity are becoming a part of a world-wide group—are linking yourself with thousands of others already bound together by one common bond—the tie of universal brotherhood.

At the time of Zeta Gamma's petition, no fraternity was allowed more than thirty-five members and new groups could be organized only by the consent and under the direction of both the faculty and the board of trustees. "To date, Zeta Gamma has initiated fifty-five. This is considered remarkable, since Zeta Gamma has been in existence only two years and has been in competition with a national sorority. At present there are fifteen active members of the Zeta Gamma Alumnæ Club and twenty non resident alumnæ who are honorary members. Zeta Gamma has six women on the faculty and four patronesses in the city."

There was an extensive list of honors won, and members in honorary

organizations, including offices in both the Palladian and Enonian Literary Societies. "Since its founding Zeta Gamma has furnished all the women *summa cum laude* graduates: Kathryn Moore, '32; Sarah Elston, '33, and Ruth Fuller, '35," the chapter said at the time of installation.

Officially inspected by Helen Kagay (Prophet), National Inspector, who recommended them for a charter grant, the Union Zetas were the second chapter to benefit by Grand Chapter's new policy of having a coorganizer with a new group during the first year.

Thus, "from the first Zeta Gamma counted itself fortunate in having Jane Griggs (Baldwin), Nu, who had been on the Union campus previous to this year, and was already known for her poise and charm. She helped us through a successful rushing season, supervised detailed plans for installation, and guided us through the three eventful days."

With "delight they received the news that Dorothy Swaney (Hillix), Grand President, and Helen Kagay (Prophet) [by now the Second Grand Vice-President], whom we met . . . last year, were to officiate at installation." On the afternoon of their arrival, December 11, 1935, an open house was held in their honor in the "four adjoining fraternity rooms."

Assisting the two national officers in the pledge service that night were Jane Griggs (Baldwin), and Louise Burrus, Zeta. Thursday's Christmas-motif luncheon at the New Southern Hotel honored Mrs. Hillix and Mrs. Prophet; Dr. J. J. Hurt, president of the University; Dr. A. W. Prince, dean; Mr. S. C. Burnett, registrar, and Mr. M. M. Summar, Union's business manager and the chapter's newest patron.

Arriving from Memphis, visiting alumnæ and college members from Beta Sigma joined them that night for the pre-initiation buffet supper given at the Mary Sue Tigrett Home Management House.

In the initiation services that followed in the fraternity room, Mrs. Hillix and Mrs. Prophet were assisted by the following Beta Sigmas: Sarah Fox Martin (Carter), Frances Flournoy (Ham), Margaret Drake (Wilson), Anna Louise Cobb (Carney), Grace Johnson, Lucile Woods (Pierce), Minnie Lee Hamer (Bales), Harriette Frank, Sarah Gracey (McClanahan), Shirley Ham (Paddison), Sophia Hunt (Towles). Beta Sigma alumnæ present were Margaret Williams, Jeanette Spann, Mary Grace Heister (Newton), Sara Moore (Whitley).

Initiated that night of December 12 were: College members—Willie Arden McCord (Turner), Rebecca Forbis (Harlan), Nell Avery (Murchison), Brownie West, Edna Earl Outlaw (Stewart), Catherine McKenzie (Myers), Verna Mae Brown (Thompson), Minnie Harris (Whitfield), Janie Vie Robinson (Lindsay), Annie Louise Johnson (Dent), Elizabeth McKinnie (Moore), Marguerite Skinner, Ileen Bolton (Monteith), Dorothy Dill Davis (Thompson), Frances Barbour, Arlynn Holland (Hale), Elizabeth Meeks. Alumnæ: Onnie Skinner, Marie Skinner, Hazel Ellis, Mary Virginia Robinson, Annie Dee Rice (Davis),

Sarah Elston, Mabel Terry Sargent (Teasley), Martha Rice (Smith), Mary Louise Smith (Warren), Alta Chambers (Thompson), Camelia Cunningham, Mary Elizabeth McCord (Ferree), Mary Mason (Englert), Erma Mason (Allen), Elizabeth Blackman, Mary Emily Blackman (Gilbert), Nellie Johns (Bradley), Elizabeth Sliman (Elias), Grace Hunt, Martha Hunt, Ruby Etheridge, Mary Hearn (Copeland), Ruth Fuller, Evelyn Jones (Moore).

Following Friday's luncheon at the Blue Grotto Tea Room, ritual service was held and officers were installed: Willie Arden McCord, president; Rebecca Forbis, vice-president; Nell Avery, secretary; Brownie West, treasurer; Elizabeth Meeks, historian; Frances Barbour, guard.

"The festivities were concluded Friday night with a brilliant banquet at the New Southern Hotel." Tables decorated in blue and gray bore "gift flowers presented by the fraternities and patronesses." Carrying out the theme of a wedding, "programs announced the marriage of Miss Zeta Gamma to Mr. Zeta Tau Alpha. Guests entered the dining-room to the strains of the wedding march." The bride's prayer was the Zeta Prayer that was sung. Hazel Ellis, the toastmistress, gave the processional; Willie McCord's toast was entitled "At Dawning"; while "O Promise Me" was given by Ann Armstrong (Harrison), president of the pledges. The visitors were introduced as bridesmaids. Mrs. Prophet was matron of honor, Jane Griggs gave the ceremony and Mrs. Hillix gave the recessional.

Then the long-looked-forward-to banquet was over; installation was no longer a dream. And Zeta's third chapter in Tennessee was well launched and rooted in a college of fine tradition.

GAMMA ALPHA: "A new page is turned in the history of Zeta Tau Alpha as the first chapter to bear the prefix *Gamma* is added to our chapter roll," Louise Kettler (Helper) wrote in *Themis*, after Zeta's third Florida chapter was established at the University of Miami. "And," she continued, "as Zeta approaches the fourth decade of her founding, most appropriately is begun the fourth series in the Greek alphabet."

That was Gamma Alpha, and again the story was one that had its own individual high lights.

Founded in 1926, the university was still very new. Forced by the 1926 hurricane and a nation-wide depression to abandon its original site, it moved into the unfinished Anastasia Hotel six weeks before the opening of the first term. When classes began in October, 1926, workmen were still busy, but the leaders kept the young university growing in the face of almost insurmountable difficulties. The one large building still housed it in 1937, but its faculty was outstanding and the spirit extraordinarily fine. One national fraternity already



had gone on the campus and the college's future, once debatable, seemed assured.

The move for a chapter in tropical Miami initiated with the resident *alumnæ*. When Nina Kitchens heard that the Miami Zetas were "not only interested in the university, but also in the possibility of having a chapter there," she started the ball rolling. The *alumnæ* president, Elizabeth Lesesne (Collins), put it this way: "It all began when Sigma Phi's president, Nina Kitchens, invited two of us to attend one of their meetings last April. Finding that the members of this old, established local group were all that Zetas should be . . . Grand Chapter was soon hearing about them."

Sigma Phi, "the old, established local group" was the oldest women's fraternity on the Miami campus. It was founded on January 10, 1927, four months after the opening session of the university, by Ruth Bryan Owen Rhode, former United States Minister to Denmark and daughter of William Jennings Bryan. The founder's purpose was "to foster the spirit of good cheer and companionship in the university, to support it in all its activities, to promote any movement afoot which has for its purpose the betterment of conditions or advancement of education, to strive to live by the high ideals set forth in this fraternity."

Mrs. Rhode selected four women outstanding in scholarship, athletics, and social activity: Ruby Falligant, Louise Falligant, Florence Muser (Brownell) and Eugenia Hehr, who wrote the rituals and songs used by Sigma Phi for eleven years. For many years Dr. Rhode was their sponsor. Known as a selective group, Sigma Phi "always included representative girls who participated prominently" in student government, journalism, dramatics, debating, athletics, the Symphony Orchestra, Honors Literary Society, and Nu Kappa Tau, Miami's only honorary society for women. "Their social program was well balanced and the group maintained an attractive suite of rooms in the wing which the university set aside for organizations." Well-used, "there was always some one in it."

Since sponsorship of groups at the university was customary, on May 11, 1937, Zeta's Miami *Alumnæ* chapter "honored Sigma Phi's members, pledges and *alumnæ* at a tea, formally announcing their sponsorship of Sigma Phi." Then, during the latter part of the college year, Elizabeth Lesesne (Collins) made an informal inspection of the group.

The Grand President, Louise Kettler Helper, arrived on November 22, 1937, for the formal inspection. Intensive indeed was the official and social schedule that resulted in a detailed report to Grand Chapter and a Sigma Phi "enthusiastic over the prospects of going national."

By official authorization, instead of routine correspondence, when Elizabeth

Steinhauer (Ott), First Vice-President, came to Miami on January 7, 1938, "she announced the formal acceptance of Sigma Phi." Previous close cooperation with the university officials made possible this fine working coordination.

With members of the Miami Alumnæ assisting, Mrs. Ott conducted pledging services on January 10 in the chapter rooms. A formal dinner followed.

Preparation for becoming a full-fledged Zeta chapter occupied the ensuing weeks as members studied for examinations and learned more about national procedures and organization. Mrs. Ott set up plans before she left. And working with them all the time was Ann Crawford, Omicron, who happened to be on the campus at a most propitious time.

Gamma Alpha became Zeta's seventy-fourth chapter in services held at the Coral Gables Congregational Church on March 26, 1938. Mrs. Helper, who returned to install the group, was assisted by Lucile Reece (Roberts), Grand Second Vice-President, Dorothy Swaney (Hillix), former Grand President who was in Miami Beach at the time, and the following Miami alumnæ: Elizabeth Lesesne (Collins), Delta; Treva Mae Allen (Seepe), Alpha Zeta; Sara Blair (Moody), Zeta; Ann Crawford, Omicron; Billie Faxon (Bivens), Beta Gamma; Jean Sandhammer (Halyburton) and Eleanor Greenleaf (Barkdull), Omicron.

Undergraduates initiated were: Mary Frohberg, Nan Belinda Wingate, Ann Gunter, Helen Kesinger (Head), Virginia Spaulding (Calloway), Patricia Ann Overbaugh (Borek), Barbara Norris, Doris Doyle, Betty Jean Johnson (Lorentz), Betty Mae Serpas (Abrams), Martha Dorn (Timamus), Kathleen Wilson (Cal-len) and Betty Lou Walker. Nina Kitchens (Graham) and Mary Louise Dorn (Buzzell) were the alumnæ initiated.

The Coral Gables Country Club was the scene of Saturday night's lovely installation banquet. Graciously presiding was Louise Helper. Other speakers were Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Hillix, Mrs. Collins, and the chapter's good friend, Miss Mary B. Merritt, Miami's dean of women and Phi Mu's National President at that time. "In addition to the Miami alumnæ who attended, there were visitors from other Zeta chapters, including a delegation from Stetson who came for the week end."

But Louise Helper recorded the occasion more graphically. She wrote:

The week end of March 26, 1938, will long be remembered by every Zeta in Miami. The papers were full of the coming event and everyone seemed aware that Zeta Tau Alpha was coming to the Miami campus.

Social activities began on Friday, when a delightful luncheon was given by Mrs. Collins and Mrs. Hubbard at the Tiffin. That evening Miss Mary B. Merritt, dean of women, and National President of Phi Mu, charmingly entertained at the Flamingo Hotel on Miami Beach. During the eventful day we learned that Mrs. A. F. Hillix, past Grand President, was at the Beach, and would be present for initiation services the next day.

At seven o'clock the next morning many white-clad figures arrived at the Congregational Church across from the Miami Biltmore, where the services were held. From seven until

four that afternoon, it was our privilege to share our secrets and to start fifteen lovely girls on their paths in our beloved fraternity.

That evening the installation banquet was held at the Coral Gables Country Club. Patronesses and Miss Merritt were honor guests. Telegrams and letters were piled high; messages of greeting from Zetas far and near, and from local friends and organizations. And equally impressive was the number of chapters represented at the banquet. Florida was well represented by alumnae from Beta Gamma, and undergraduates and alumnae of Beta Psi who drove down.

On Sunday morning we gathered in the chapter rooms, Zetas from West Palm Beach joining us. Enthusiasm and pride were evident at every turn. Past dreams had been realized for Sigma Phi, and new ones were beginning for Zeta Tau Alpha.

It was also the culmination of the Miami Alumnae's "desire to have Zeta Tau Alpha represented on this tropical campus. For a year both groups have worked together in perfect harmony, our alumnae dreaming of the day when the Zeta world would welcome these splendid girls into our fraternity.

"Miami Alumnae greet you, Gamma Alpha, our daughters, with pride in our belief in your future and appreciation of your dignity as founders of your chapter," they concluded.

Zeta Tau Alpha was the third N.P.C. group on the campus.

**GAMMA BETA:** The eastern shore of Maryland became the home of Zeta's seventy-fifth chapter when Gamma Beta chapter was placed at historic Washington College, in Chestertown, Maryland, which was established "while these United States were still the thirteen original colonies."

The first public school in Kent County, by 1782 it was so flourishing that it was thought wise to raise its standards to the rank of a college. Washington College's present charter, the first college charter granted in Maryland, is dated May 31, 1782. When funds were solicited, George Washington subscribed fifty guineas, and also gave permission to name the college after him. Washington College is proud of the fact that it is the first educational institution and the only college to bear his name with his personal consent. He accepted a position on the Board of Visitors and Governors, and is known to have attended one board meeting at Chestertown. The college values several letters written by the General to Dr. William Smith, the famous scholar who transformed the early school into a college. "At commencement in 1789, President Washington was made a Doctor of Laws of the college."

Down the years the tradition-rich college, situated in one of the beauty spots of the interesting eastern shore, continued its quiet existence, surviving the burning of its first building in 1827. Remaining small, it developed a distinct character, both delightful and individual. With a faculty of thirty in 1938, there were approximately three hundred students—two hundred men and one hundred women.



"Although Washington College maintained an 'A' rating for many years, it was not until 1928 that the Board authorized the organization of fraternities on the campus. In 1931, three sororities were recognized. They were housed in special sorority rooms in Reid Hall."

But movements were afoot long before that. Feeling "an ardent need for some sort of social organization," the Maryland members wrote, "girls with the same interests had been forming groups . . . a number of years before they were recognized. They chose their own Greek names, wrote their own constitutions and began to conduct their own meetings."

Impetus to their affiliation with national organizations was given when Dr. Gilbert W. Mead, an active fraternity man and ardent Phi Gamma Delta,\* became president of the college. Stipulated, however, was the president's approval of the nationals to be petitioned. And not indefinite were the ideas as to those most desired. Entertaining a high regard for Zeta from his previous experience with the gracious chapter at Birmingham-Southern College, Dr. Mead was most cordial to Gamma Sigma's petitioning Zeta Tau Alpha, a move of which he heartily approved. For, of the three campus groups, Gamma Sigma was the one seeking a Zeta charter.

Of this group the Maryland petitioners wrote that Gamma Sigma was founded in 1930, by Victoria Deen (Butler), Beatrice Deen (Gray), Mary Morris, Ethel Herera and Lou LeKites. In 1931 "the college officials" recognized the group and Dr. Esther M. Dole, professor of history, became their sponsor. Dr. Dole was a tower of strength to them.

In their own words, "The aim of the organization was to promote good character, citizenship and scholarship. It soon became one of the leading campus groups," they admitted proudly. "Its members were quick to realize that much was to be gained by extracurricular activities. Various members became officers of campus organizations but with all this interest in outside activities, the group attained a high academic standing among the organizations on the hill."

Olivia Watkins (Leatherman), Beta Alpha, visited Gamma Sigma for an informal inspection on June 3-4, 1937. "Because of examinations and last-minute preparations for June week," the chapter regretted being "unable to entertain informally," but the delightful two days were faithfully and favorably reported.

Then, in October, 1937, Gamma Sigma greeted Zeta's new Grand President, "Mrs. Harold Hill Helper, who arrived en route to Washington." The girls "met her at the train in Wilmington," from which they took the ferry to Chestertown. Louise Helper was charmed with Maryland's eastern shore. The

\* Dr. Mead was also a friend of Albert F. Hillix, a Phi Gamma Delta, whose wife, Dorothy Swaney Hillix, was Zeta's Grand President at the time the petition from Washington College was initiated.

hours of her few days' stay were crammed with conferences and social affairs, and on her last evening there, "Zeta Tau Alpha's first lady attended Gamma Sigma's regular meeting in Reid Hall," before she went to Elkton to take a train for Washington.

Months passed before "one afternoon in early spring, Dorothy Longmire (Warlick) and her friend, Helen Monroe (Crone), from Washington, D.C., in a brief visit brought us encouraging news, and all Gamma Sigma anxiously awaited the final word that would tell us whether or not we would be privileged to become a part of Zeta Tau Alpha. In a few weeks that seemed a few-odd years, the news arrived. Gamma Sigma would become Gamma Beta chapter on April 30, 1938."

However, before that, "on April 2, the members of Gamma Sigma became the proud possessors of the turquoise blue and steel gray carpenter's square. Dorothy Longmire Warlick, Zeta, assisted by Dorothy Rock, Beta Alpha, and several Zetas from Washington, pledged a group of twenty-two girls in the chapter room."

The ceremony was a revelation. "At this time we of Gamma Sigma first realized what we have been without," they wrote. "The feeling of becoming a part of something bigger and finer swelled in the hearts of all the pledges. . . ."

Soon after, on April 30, "the seventy-fifth link was formally attached to the Zeta chain." Louise Helper returned to install the Maryland chapter. Assisting her were Dorothy Warlick and Dorothy Rock. "Installation began at seven o'clock and continued until four o'clock, in the home of Elizabeth Whitworth, in Chestertown. How impressive the ceremony was!" they wrote.

College members initiated that day were: Elsie Wharton (Kehler), Anne Cameron, Dorothy McKenzie (Lang), Margaret Heinmueller, Elizabeth Baldwin (Booth), Elizabeth Whitworth, Bernice Smith (Dobson), Charlotte Shaull (Blevins), Dorothy Leonard, Charlotte Russell (McCalley), Jean Wheatley. Alumnae initiates were: Catherine Kirwan, Estelle Wesley, Emily Jewell, Carolyn Jewell, Margaret Crawford and Margaret Saulsbury.

The installation banquet and "the congratulations which poured in from all over the country," as expressed by Gamma Beta's president, "gave them a sense of belonging to something bigger than they ever dreamed of, and of entering an entirely new and beautiful world.

"From the time Mrs. Helper and her installation assistants arrived until the departure of the last guest at the installation tea," every moment was inspiring to the Gamma Betas.

And Louise Helper never forgot the beauty of the eastern shore lilies-of-the-valley and the part they played in the initiation ceremony.

GAMMA GAMMA: To Texas, a state already proud in its possession of three Zeta chapters, went the seventy-sixth charter grant. And it went to a group in

which the El Paso Zetas had been interested for a number of years—a group on a relatively young campus.

Founded in 1914, the Texas College of Mines and Metallurgy\* was, until it merged with the El Paso Junior College in 1927, “strictly a masculine institution, with few co-eds braving the sand and rocks, slide rules and tripods and hostile glances of male students.” It was a branch of the University of Texas, situated in the largest city between Dallas and Los Angeles.

Since, through alert El Paso Zetas, the fraternity had been observant of developments, a 1932 officer’s comment was that “the college is really only in its infancy and will grow tremendously in the years ahead. West Texas has great possibilities for development, and with its development is bound to come the growth of a university in that section. Situated in the hills, close to El Paso, yet with abundant room for expansion, the college has five large buildings in splendid condition and well equipped.”

Of the 952 enrolled in 1938, the year in which Zeta Tau Alpha entered the campus, only 371 were women, so “the masculine element still prevails,” the girls wrote.

But long before 1931, when the college was first permitted to confer the B.A. degree, the local Zetas were interested in the possibility of locating a chapter at what was then called the “Mines.” In fact, “for the past three years the El Paso Zetas have watched very carefully the growth of this school,” Margaret Levy (Feuille) wrote, and deeply interested was Louise Kettler (Helper), then the president of Zeta province.

A local organization for women founded at the Junior College transferred to “Mines” when that institution merged with the new El Paso college. Numerous communications in the national files attest to the fact that, from the start, the observant Zeta alumnae were interested in this group.

Pi Epsilon Pi, organized in 1924 at the El Paso Junior College, transferred “to the College of Mines in 1928, when several members” entered, “and Pi Epsilon Pi became a recognized organization on the campus.” Although it soon expanded far beyond that horizon, in the beginning Pi Epsilon Pi “was primarily a bridge club, with membership limited to sixteen, which met once a week. Dorothy Durham (Hale) was the president and Sylvia Vollmer the sponsor.”

On the new campus “Isabelle McKinney was the sponsor. Mary Frances Crawford was the president and Marguerite Blockson the treasurer. Other members were Florence Groshneider (Brunner); Betty Colt; Helen Anderson (Summerville) and Frances Casselberry (Allen), Beta Nu; Edna Sturgis, Sylvia Coe, Lucile Hooks, Anne Kealhofer, Portia Andreas, Anita Andreas, Mary Sattler, Rebecca Kyriacopulos, Evelyn Farrow (Lance), Virginia Gardner and Betsy Dixon (Morrisson).

\* The college’s name was later changed to Texas Western College.



Despite the 1931 interest and activity when the college became a degree-conferring institution, nationals did not go on the campus until the spring of 1938, when Omega Phi Delta became Delta Delta Delta and Pi Epsilon Pi became a chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha. By this time the group had garnered sheaves of honors and offices.

And it was a striking coincidence that El Paso's own Louise Kettler (Helper), whose early interest had held constant, was by then Zeta Tau Alpha's National President. Under her capable leadership the formal details were consummated and when actual plans began it was evident that their brilliance would more than make up for the six years intervening between Zeta's first official interest and final action.

Announcement was made of the charter grant on May 19, 1938. "That night," the chapter wrote, "thirteen of us met at the home of Rosa Mae Egbert, Kappa, to receive our pledge ribbons and meet our big sisters in the alumnæ group."

Beta Nu members from the nearby New Mexico chapter came from Las Cruces for the formal pledge service, which was held the following Thursday at the home of the El Paso Alumnæ president, Lillian Farr (Thomas). The new pledges immediately started to learn Zeta songs and the next day's papers carried pictures of informal groups taken that night. Nor did they fail to register their pleasure in having Gladys Gregory, Lambda, as their faculty adviser.

They next reported that "under the expert guidance of Susan Peterson, alumnæ rushing chairman, summer rushing opened with a seated tea at the home of Shirley Heisig." Fully appreciative of what was happening, they wrote that "our alumnæ chapter was very active, and gave the most outstanding parties of the season." During a busy summer of social affairs and planning, the girls redecorated their "new club room in the home of Margaret Barnes. Here, again, the alumnæ were generous and helpful in donating furniture, lamps and ornaments."

Ushering in the new season, "the night before college opened, the alumnæ entertained with a formal garden party at the home of Elizabeth Goodman (Young), honoring the patronesses.

"Mysteries began for Gamma Gamma the night before installation, when the last pledge meeting was held in darkness. Only wavering candlelight illuminated the club room and the honored visitors, Louise Kettler (Helper), Grand President, and Marion Mayer (Bergin), National Field Secretary, came in carrying candles to light their way." Not ceremonial mystery but a storm-disrupted light service was responsible for the candle-lit meeting at which "inspiring messages from the two officers presaged a week end long to be remembered."

Initiation began at nine o'clock on October 7, 1938, in the home of Irma Mathee (Coldwell), vice-president of the El Paso Alumnæ. And Louise Helper, happy that her long-hoped-for El Paso chapter was becoming a reality, returned

from New Orleans to be the installing officer. Marion Bergin was the assistant installing officer. Others participating in the ceremonies were Lillian Farr (Thomas), Elizabeth Goodman (Young), Irma Mathee (Coldwell), Annie Bess Moore (McGregor), Mabel O'Connor (Lipscomb), Margaret Levy (Feuille), Mary Elizabeth Sheerhan (White), all of Kappa, and Gladys Gregory, Lambda.

Gamma Gamma's charter members initiated that day in October were: College members—Kathryn Haisley (Lance), Mary Ann Mitchell (Ryan), Kate Black (Crombie), Bettie Beard (Thornberry), Nancy Lackland (Harper), Betty Stark (Fletcher), Keith Teague (Chapman), Wilma Meyer (Lochaussen), Jean Claire Leonard (Miller), Florence Ponsford (McDonald), Josephine Kelly (Curtan), Margaret Barnes (Armstrong), Rachel Bickley (Grubbs), Shirley Heisig (Weaver), Aileen Hill (Mettee). Alumnæ: Louise Maxon, Gretchen Reinmund (Gabriel), Virginia Dyer (Dykert), Harriet Morris (Luckett), Betty Lee Dyer. Then "the new initiates served a buffet supper to the guests and alumnæ" who, for long hours, had so beautifully conducted the unforgettable initiation ritual.

"On Saturday there was a charming luncheon at the home of a patroness, Mrs. W. F. Ritter." For remembrance, "Marion Mayer Bergin took movies as Mrs. Helper and the hostess bade adios to the honorees," the initiates and patronesses.

That evening's installation banquet and dance were given by the El Paso Alumnæ at the Hotel Paso del Norte. The banquet theme, "Turquoise Blue and the Seven Links," was made vivid in the table decorations, and that table extended the full length of the Gold Room. A centerpiece chain of turquoise blue chrysanthemums and silver-sprayed foilage formed seven large links. At either end of the table was a huge bowl of specimen chrysanthemums. On a wide turquoise satin ribbon running the full length of the table were silver candelabra with turquoise tapers, while in the center of each center link stood a silver candlestick, holding a burning turquoise taper.

Gladys Gregory, the toastmistress, introduced the speakers in rhyme. They responded in rhyme. The program read—Mrs. Helper as Turquoise Blue, followed by the Seven Links: Marion Mayer Bergin, Grand Chapter; Lillian Farr Thomas, Alumnæ; Margaret Barnes, Actives; Louise Maxon, Alma Mater; Constance Sutherland, Cooperation; Cornelia Love Owen, Loyalty. Around the table were representatives from Alpha Nu, Beta Nu, Kappa and Lambda. Mrs. D. M. Wiggins, wife of the college president, and Miss Norma Egg, the dean of women, were special guests.

"At nine o'clock, when dates and guests assembled for the dance . . . the national, undergraduate and alumnæ officers formed the receiving line. Members of other campus sororities and fraternities were special guests."

Following Beta Nu's Sunday morning presentation of the ritual service, Gamma Gamma's first officers were officially installed by Mrs. Helper and

Mrs. Bergin: Margaret Barnes, president; Nancy Lackland, vice-president; Aileen Hill, secretary; Keith Teague, treasurer; Kate Haisley, historian.

The three-hour formal reception held that afternoon "in the beautiful new Library and Administration Building presented Gamma Gamma to El Paso. Throughout the entire building were baskets and bouquets of flowers sent by friends and other organizations." Again, effective use was made of the Zeta colors in decorations and on the tea table. In the receiving line were Mrs. Helper, Mrs. Bergin, Mrs. Wilhelmina Kettler (mother of Mrs. Helper), Dr. Wiggins and Mrs. Wiggins, Miss Egg, Lillian Thomas, alumnae president, and the officers of the new chapter.

When installation week end came to a close, long years of hoping and planning became a reality. And Zeta Tau Alpha at Texas Western College was that happy reality.

### Supplementary Notes

1. Previous to this, however, "three of our charter members met Bettie Currie of Alpha Sigma chapter, who unconsciously by her outstanding personality won their esteem and aroused their interest in Zeta Tau Alpha. By investigation," they stated in their official petition, "we discovered that Zeta Tau Alpha had many outstanding women. We met Ada Liddell, ex-president of Alpha Tau chapter, whose charming personality has been an inspiration to all of us."
2. Of this measuring stick, they said, "We consider a girl to be of fraternity type who is distinctive for positive characteristics physically, spiritually, mentally, socially, morally, vocationally. Our group does not plan to run to any one specific type."

They had examined the merits of affiliation. "A national fraternity is like a big chain," they reasoned, "the links of which are bound together by a strong feeling of fellowship based upon common ideals. The advantages we expect to gain by affiliation are: (1) scope of activities widened; (2) interests broadened; (3) contacts beyond the immediate group; (4) permanency; (5) prestige, (6) and the pleasure of sharing the joys and sorrows of a group of like ambition.

3. Gamma Nu called the following list "a partial itemization of the achievements of her members: Associated Students, University of Oregon, secretary; Business Administration student body, treasurer; Phi Chi Theta, business administration organization, five members, a president and vice-president; Allied Arts League, three members, a president and vice-president; Alpha Kappa Delta, sociology, three members, a president and secretary; Big Sister Committee of Woman's League, eleven members; Gamma Alpha Chi, advertising group, one member; Glee Club, eight members; Orchestra, five members; Mu Phi Epsilon, music, one; Phi Beta, music and drama, three; Orchesis, dancing, three; athletics, eight; Order of the Oarsmen, one member and three associate members; Hermian, physical education, one; Woman's Athletic Association, vice-president; *Oregana* staff, yearbook, five; *Emerald* (daily paper) staff, six—three day editors, one night editor; Theta Sigma Phi, journalism, two; Pi Lambda Theta, education, three, a president and treasurer; Sigma Delta Pi, Spanish, one; Pi Delta Phi, French, one; Temenids, Eastern Star, seven, a local and national president; Phi Theta Upsilon, junior-senior service, seven, a vice-president; Thespian, freshman service, three; debate, two; Honors College, three; Y.W.C.A., five.



4. Visiting Zetas were: Jessie Williams (Puffer), Margaret McFarland (Clark), Beatrice Raber (Welch), Alice Sandell (Vaughan), Geraldine Meen (Graef), Leslie Montford (Pescoe), Muriel Stradley (Risk), Psi; Lea Puymbroeck (Miller), Helen Zintheo (Rodenhouse), Katherine Daly (Woolston), Catherine Carson (Taylor), Seattle Alumnæ; Phyllis Chandler (Lobinsinger), Doris Mardis (Tibbetts), Martha Jones (Pinson), Itha Clinton (Graham), Mary Fullington, Valette Harer (Curtis), Alice Moser (Rice), Ethel Allison (Holdridge), Gladys Leibbrand (Valley), Forrest Bales (Canova), Vivien Bales, Mary Godfrey (Patrick), Gladys Shank (Ketty), Opal Smith (Chantler), Paula Bockenfeld, Louise Weis (Ashla) and Lois Brown (Kearns), Alpha Sigma.
5. Zetas listed as attending the installation were: Lansing Alumnæ—Mildred Davis (Barr), Alpha Phi-Alpha Gamma; Thelma Johnson (Thain), Theta; Cornelia Walker, Alpha Iota-Alpha Gamma; Agnes Crain (Trout), Beta Zeta; Dorothy Tichenor (Branaman), Beta Tau; Florence Bovee (Somerton), Beta Tau; Hazel Miller (Scalf), Beta Tau. Detroit Alumnæ: Frances MacCraken. Mildred Ostrander, Beta Tau. Alpha Gamma: Marjory Elsworth (Esther), Dorothy Elsworth (McDonald), Gladys Schroder (Latta), Ann Neberle (Clark), Frances Stiles. Beta Tau: Gwendoline Jones (Whipple), Enid Downey (Garthwaite), Naomi Kimball (Slaughter); Margaret Bell (Jackson), Ruth Loomis (Coger), Thelma Cooper (Blain); Annamarie Garlanger and Virginia Faucett (Jacka), Alpha Theta.
6. Sigma Alpha Phi garnered the following laurels: For three years in the *Hatter*, Stetson's yearbook, Sigma Alpha Phi received the honor of having the college's most intellectual girls: Lorna Simpson, 1929; Virginia Cheeney, 1930; Catherine Howarth, 1934. In 1930, Winifred Tumblin was elected Miss Personality, the same year in which Margaret Gibbs was Miss Versatility. The following year, 1933, Sally Mae Edwards was chosen Miss Popularity. In 1933, Ida Mae Cocowitch's picture was in the feature section of the *Hatter* as maid of honor to the May Queen. Geraldine Farrar (Adams) was elected May Queen in 1934.

In its seven years of existence, Sigma Alpha Phi had three editors-in-chief of the *Hatter*: Virginia Cheney, 1929; Winifred Tumblin, 1932; Edna Alderman, 1934-1935. Two presidents of student government were Winifred Tumblin, 1932, and Etter Turner, 1934-1935. (Etter Turner later became Stetson's dean of women.) Five members were student body officers and seven had held class offices. Women's Athletic Association presidents were Margaret Gibbs, 1932; Bernice Fisher, 1933, Geraldine Farrar (Adams), 1934. The list of members belonging to honorary organizations was long.

# Conventions

## *and Grand Chapter Meetings*

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(Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 1929)

THE 1928 convention-elected Grand Chapter converged on Pittsburgh for its first annual meeting opening the fourth decade, which was held January 16-20, 1929, at the Hotel Pittsburgher.<sup>1</sup> All the members of the new Grand Chapter were there: Bertha Cruse (Gardner), President; Bruce Houston (Davis), Vice-President; Bernice Kirkham (Terry), Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Editor-Historian; and Mildred Spragg (Boyd), National Inspector. For the first time reports were filed without reading.

Ushering in Zeta's "new and broader" international status was the charter grant to Kappa Tau, at the University of Manitoba. Gamma Nu, at the University of Oregon, was granted a charter. The University of South Carolina was another new field entered, when a charter was granted to Zeta Phi. The lifting of South Carolina's long-time legislative ban on fraternities made that possible. Formal inspections were granted to Clionian, at Albion College (later Beta Tau chapter); Chi Alpha, Southwestern University, in Memphis (later Beta Sigma), and Alpha Chi Theta at Kansas State College (later Beta Upsilon). Several informal visits were also authorized.

Next to the charter grants, "of deepest interest" was the decision to enlarge the House Loan Fund by the transfer of \$15,000 from the General Fund to the House Loan Fund "where it would be available for chapters wishing to build or buy." This, and a transfer from the Scholarship Fund of the annual 1929 contribution to the Philanthropic Fund, were Finance Committee recommendations accepted. The General Fund, being in a very healthy state, was considered to be seaworthy in the matter of such a transfer. "Thus some of the money now invested in other securities will be invested in building projects of the various chapters," it was explained. The House Advisory Committee was given permission "to perfect a plan for the maintenance and upkeep of chapter houses on a more efficient basis."

Finance Committee recommendations were received. A flat fee of \$50 was approved for each initiate, covering the initiation fee, the two-volume *History of Zeta Tau Alpha*, a yellow-gold pearl badge, a life subscription to *Themis*,

with the remaining fifty cents credited to the Philanthropic Fund. Six per cent was to be the interest rate on renewals of notes from the Scholarship Fund. Fathers and mothers were not to endorse notes. All fines imposed by Grand Chapter were to be sent direct to Central Office, with notice forwarded to the officer imposing the fine, by the Secretary-Treasurer. A \$10 convention registration fee was decided upon, to cover *The Chain*, the banquet and other social functions, any surplus being credited to the Philanthropic Fund. Each alumnæ group was to contribute to the Philanthropic Fund. Decided upon was \$50 annually from each chartered chapter; \$20 from unchartered groups.

It was further recommended that the national organization purchase the Panhellenic House<sup>2</sup> shares from individuals and chapters (previously sold to them), the money paid on their stock to be transferred to the National Philanthropic Fund, thereby relieving them from further payment. The fiscal year was to be August first through July thirty-first. On the agenda was the recommendation that the National Inspector spend two summer months in Central Office, to give the office director a vacation, "this to apply to the year between conventions." Remunerated incoming officers were to receive checks on the first day of the month following their election. Other matters of financial routine were covered, and adjustments made. Purchases approved included a new installation trunk.

The reports of committee chairmen were to be sent to the Grand President for distribution.

Pursuing further the previous convention's reaffirmation of this point, the meeting announced that "since reproduction of the Zeta Tau Alpha badge for decorative purposes is forbidden by both custom and tradition, it is suggested that chapters use the heraldic shield in lieu of the Zeta Tau Alpha shield in carrying out . . . decorative schemes. This would serve the purpose, and at the same time safeguard the fraternity's tradition in regard to the use of the pin." Thus did the heraldic shield (a shield clearly defined in shape but one different from Zeta Tau Alpha's five-pointed shield) come into usage for decorative purposes, solving a problem then currently poised.

Definite was the decision that, since such pins were the property of the chapter, pledge pins were to be turned in to the chapter when a girl was initiated, or withdrew from college, or when a pledge was broken. A miniature coat-of-arms was to be the guard pin for a Grand Chapter initiate. Subscription to *Themis* which would be expected, and acquisition of the *History* were the initiate's own personal responsibility. Designs and prices for a scholarship medallion were to be secured.

Playing cards bearing the coat-of-arms were approved, if purchased from the official jeweler, and chapters were not to purchase "Zeta novelty jewelry from non members."



The Editor-Historian was authorized to write the new Zeta Tau Alpha section in *Baird's Manual* and *The Sorority Handbook*. It was decided to print the *Etiquette Compilation* in a separate book, while "Grand Chapter was to complete the work on the *Manual* started by the past Grand Chapter."

Ambitious was the plan to have "the minutes of the 1930 convention checked by the present Grand Chapter following convention, at the place of convention."

The chapter publishing the songbook was to be asked to give all or part of the profits to the Philanthropic Fund, since the songbook was an authorized national publication.

Three chapters were put under supervisors. Three were on probation. One was taken off.

Resignation of the chairman appointed to handle the commercial project selected by the Canadian convention to benefit the Philanthropic Fund, was accepted. The Indianapolis Alumnæ were then given charge.

Less than five years after the first districting, Grand Chapter "redivided the provinces, as authorized by the 1928 convention," the change becoming effective February 15, 1929. Gamma province remained unchanged, but Theta-Iota province was separated and a new province map was readied.

Something new, made possible by convention action, was "giving a number of chapters permission to initiate (six) honorary members. Appointments were completed, much extension was discussed and disposed of" in the five-day meeting.

On the social side, Chi and the Pittsburgh Alumnæ honored the visiting Zetas "with a delightful tea at the chapter house" on Friday. There was also a dinner at a Pittsburgh club.

### The First International and Twelfth National Convention

Convention-goers journeyed to the Middle West for the next national meeting where, from June 26-30, 1930, the first international and twelfth national convention was held at the West Baden Hotel, West Baden Springs, Indiana—"four hot days when the Hoosier sun tried to vie with Hoosier hospitality in the intensity of its reception."

This convention announcement was distinguished by the fact that it was the first to bear the new terminology of *international*, the establishment of Beta Rho chapter at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, having given the fraternity this broadened status.<sup>3</sup> Thus Canadian and American Zetas met for the first time in joint conclave, and the note that rang through both procedure and program was one of inspiring across-the-Border friendliness. There was an approximate attendance of 300.<sup>4</sup>

A three-day Grand Chapter meeting preceded convention, the following officers being present: Bertha Cruse (Gardner), President; Bruce Houston

(Davis), Vice-President; Bernice Kirkham (Terry), Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Editor-Historian; Mildred Spragg (Boyd), National Inspector.

The convention opened auspiciously the night of June 26, preceded by a formal dinner given by the President for grand officers, honor guests and province presidents,<sup>5</sup> which took place after listening to Rudy Vallee, well known orchestra leader and radio star, broadcast Zeta songs and a brief historical sketch<sup>6</sup> over a nation-wide hookup during the Fleischmann Hour. Zetas from coast to coast and as far away as South America heard the program, the first of its kind ever to feature a Zeta convention, much less open it.

Ceremonial dignity marked the formal opening held in the Assembly Hall of the hotel. The colorful procession was led by three gracefully tall girls of exact height, carrying the Christian flag, and those of the United States and Canada. A corps of white-frocked pages wearing lustrous turquoise blue ribbons bearing the silver letters ZTA, and the myriad-hued gowns of the page-escorted officers and guests, offset by the formal black of the one gentleman guest, the manager of the hotel, combined to form a picture of beauty and brilliance.

Welcomed at this time were Miss Amy Onken, president of Pi Beta Phi, and Mrs. Carl Malott, president of Delta Zeta. Both made charming impromptu speeches. A gracious note was sounded when the presidents of other groups were asked to join Zeta Tau Alpha for the opening night of convention. The Founders were represented by Frances Yancey Smith.

The address of welcome was given by Pauline Dillon (Gragg), president of Epsilon province, who made the introductions. *The Creed* was read by Mrs. W. Vandervoort Cathany (Teddy Risser), Alpha Phi, while the evening's soloist was Marie Dick, Birmingham Alumnæ. Group singing was led by Lois Powell, Alpha Tau, convention music chairman. In the receiving line of the reception which followed was the president of the hostess province, Miss Smith, the grand officers, Dr. Hopkins (a former National President in attendance), and the honor guests.

*Themis* commented later that the next morning's opening business session was attended by a shower of gavels. "First of all," it said, "the twelfth convention may easily be remembered as one characterized by the presentation of gavels. On the opening night, in behalf of the Founders, Miss Smith presented the fraternity with a gavel made of wood used in the first custom-house in the United States, at Yorktown, Virginia, recently restored by the Comte De Grasse chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution of which Helen Crafford, one of Zeta's Founders, is a charter member."

A gavel made from wood used in the White House roof from 1815-1927 was next presented by the Beaumont, Texas, Alumnæ, in appreciation of the Grand President, who was from that city. Claire Hodges (Perry), Lambda, made the presentation.

Work-studded days, interspersed with intervals of recreation, followed. Considering the business accomplished: Of foremost interest was the vote to locate Central Office permanently in a central location, with Evanston, Illinois,<sup>7</sup> selected as the final choice. Necessary office assistants were allowed.

Grand Chapter's annual meeting was to be held at a time and place to be specified by a majority vote of that body, written notice being furnished members of Grand Chapter and all college and chartered alumnæ groups at least six weeks prior to the meeting. Special meetings could be called by the Grand President or a majority Grand Chapter vote, two weeks' notice being necessary. In connection with a Grand Chapter vote, the Grand President was given permission to consider as affirmative any vote not received "within a specified, reasonable time." Grand Chapter representation at province conventions was provided for in the decision to have a Grand Chapter member, chosen by a majority Grand Chapter vote, present at each convention.<sup>8</sup>

The Secretary-Treasurer was hereafter to "be held responsible for all receipts and disbursements," while the National Inspector was to "visit and inspect each college and chartered alumnæ chapter once during the two-year period between national conventions; have supervision of the work of the province presidents in reference to chapter inspections, with the advice of Grand Chapter; present a signed blank from the Grand President as her fraternity credentials before inspecting a chapter<sup>9</sup> and prepare and distribute to each college and alumnæ chapter a copy of a uniform *Manual for Actives and Alumnæ*."

Powers of province conventions were extended to include determining the financing of the province and its convention (based upon a budget presented by the province officers), and selection of the place and date of the next meeting. Provision was made for a training school to instruct province presidents in the work of inspection to be conducted by the retiring National Inspector on the day or days following national convention.

An important change in the duties of chapter officers stipulated that *Themis* letters be written by the historian, rather than the secretary. There were to be weekly pledge instruction classes, under the direction of the vice-president.

The vice-president was also to have charge of the training of new initiates for one month after initiation, before they were to be admitted to full chapter privileges. In addition, she was to give the fraternity examination to pledges and new initiates. Then convention changed the word *doorkeeper*, in the constitution, to *guard*.

Regarding funds: A Philanthropic Endowment Fund and a Permanent Endowment Fund were added to the fraternity's official funds. Convention registration fees and one-half of the commission on jewelry sales became added sources of revenue for the Convention Fund, the rest of these commissions remaining in the Scholarship Fund. In arranging the philanthropic funds it was decided to place under the Current Fund the annual alumnæ dues, contributions



and interest on the Philanthropic Endowment Fund, with the Philanthropic Endowment Fund receiving alumnæ life memberships, alumnæ charter fees, bequests and special gifts. Plans for the Permanent Endowment Fund were to be worked out by Grand Chapter and the Finance Committee for presentation at the next convention. Eligibility to use the Scholarship Loan Fund was extended to include graduate, as well as undergraduate students. The maximum duration of a loan was to be three years, and endorsers were not to be individuals related to the applicants. Exemption of the Founders from the payment of dues was placed on record. Committee expenses were hereafter to be included under the disbursements from the General Fund.

When, for the first time in its history, the University of Texas introduced (in 1930) a course in child hygiene, child training and homemaking, Dr. Hopkins expressed her wish to place, through the Hopkins Fund, the first graduate in that department. It was announced that accumulated interest from the Hopkins Fund was now sufficient to permit the awarding of graduate scholarships.

Alumnæ charters were to be granted under the direction of the Grand Vice-President "as set forth in the by-laws." Charter grants, still made upon the unanimous vote of Grand Chapter, were hereafter to be subject to the previous receipt of the favorable recommendation of the majority of the college and alumnæ chapters in the province in which the petitioning group was located.

This convention added the stipulation that chapter honorary initiates be college women, while the status of those who had been asked to become Grand Chapter initiates, but who had not yet been initiated at convention, was defined as that of pledges. It was decided to present a badge, a life subscription to *Themis* and the volumes of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha* to Grand Chapter initiates, while the chapter recommending a chapter honorary initiate was to present her with a badge and *The History*. Requirements for membership were rearranged to avoid repetition of general requirements for all members.

A new appointment plan made the House Advisory Committee self-perpetuating.<sup>10</sup> Philanthropic Endowment Trustees were given specific duties,<sup>11</sup> and the regulations under which the *Themis* Endowment Trustees were to administer the *Themis* Endowment Fund were added to the constitution and by-laws.<sup>12</sup> The statement: "and such other expenditures as are deemed necessary by the Finance Committee" was changed in the constitution to read "such other expenditures as are provided for in the budget." The Finance Committee was charged with presenting a budget to convention, giving recommendations as to the amounts to be voted by convention for dues, fees, salaries and other such appropriations allowed by the constitution.

Convention itself was considered in the following accepted recommendations: That official delegates from college and alumnæ chapters forward reports to their respective province presidents thirty days before convention to be com-

bined into one report by the province presidents. That there be a committee of three on convention recommendations. That the Constitution Committee clarify or interpret the constitution and by-laws at the request of Grand Chapter, such interpretation to be accepted until the next convention. That a committee composed of Grand Chapter, the Constitution Committee and the province presidents, meet before the report on constitutional amendments is given at convention and select the amendments to be presented. Any amendment not presented might be brought to the floor by a majority vote of convention. The Constitution Committee was also given authority to make necessary changes for continuity of thought in the amendments passed, and it was stipulated that they put the recommendations and the present constitution in one instrument for the next convention.

Other interesting recommendations adopted were: That the scholarship committee award a wall plaque or similar trophy to each chapter ranking first on its campus at the time of the award, such plaque or trophy to provide means of indicating each time the chapter attains first place, the trophy to be the permanent property of the chapter. That committee and trustee appointments be made not later than sixty days after Grand Chapter takes office. That trustees and members of standing committees serve between conventions until their successors are appointed. That college chapters no longer be required to purchase Mrs. Martin's *Sorority Handbook* for pledges. That Grand Chapter choose an official national supply house from which china, silver, et cetera, bearing Zeta insignia may be purchased, commissions going to the Philanthropic Fund. That Central Office and the province presidents send out uniform convention report sheets for both college and alumnæ chapters.

A new geographical distribution of provinces was approved.

Publications announced in the interim since the last convention included Volume II of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*, by Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout),<sup>13</sup> a second edition of the Songbook, and an *Etiquette Compilation*, by Phyllis Randall, Alpha Kappa. A new directory was scheduled for immediate publication. Convention also decided upon a national *Pledge Manual*, to take the place of individual chapter pledge manuals.

Important was the announcement of the registration in the United States Patent Office of two trademarks, to insure the exclusive use of the Greek letters ZTA, and the word Themis. Registration of the word Themis took place September 17, 1929, while the Greek letters, ZTA, were registered September 24, 1929; both trademarks to be in force for twenty years unless sooner terminated by law. In this procedure, Zeta Tau Alpha acted in accordance with the policy of other organizations which had taken this precaution to protect their name, magazines, jewelry and novelties from unauthorized use or manufacture.

*The Chain* made its second appearance as a printed daily newspaper and again enjoyed financial, as well as editorial success.<sup>14</sup>

Delta chapter, recipient of the scholarship cup the first time it was awarded in 1926, was again adjudged the winner of the coveted trophy, thus achieving the distinction of winning it twice out of the three times it had been awarded.<sup>15</sup> Dorothy Claus (Wallace), Alpha Tau, with an average of 97.5, was awarded the bronze scholarship medallion given to the individual Zeta having the highest average in the fraternity. Delta province had the best province exhibit, while Beta Kappa placed first among chapter exhibits.

Grand officers elected at the final business session were: Bertha Cruse (Gardner), President; Mildred Snowden (Smith), Vice-President; Bernice Kirkham (Terry), Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Editor-Historian, May E. Youngberg, National Inspector.

The Hotel Huntington, Pasadena, California, was selected as the next convention location.

"Perfection of detail and decoration marked the traditional ceremonials."<sup>16</sup> At Monday night's model initiation, conducted by members of Grand Chapter, assisted by Ada Swigart (Hess), president of Alpha province, and May Youngberg, Evanston Alumnae, Mary Dan Frantz, chosen on the basis of being the official delegate from the chapter winning the scholarship cup, was the model initiate.<sup>17</sup> The ritual service followed.

The impressive memorial service, written by Frances Y. Smith, and conducted by her at three preceding conventions, was held Sunday morning at seven-thirty o'clock in the Assembly Hall, Miss Smith again conducting. She was assisted by Mildred Spragg (Boyd), in charge of arrangements. At this time convention paused to pay reverent tribute to the seventy-two members who had passed on.

Included in the program's features<sup>18</sup> were Friday's Sweetheart Luncheon, Saturday's Scholarship Luncheon, the Sunday afternoon tea and Sunday night's province dinners. The bathing beauty revue following Stunt Night was an innovation that resulted in the crowning of Edith Tschudy (Hammel), Tau, as Miss Zeta. There was a competing field of twenty-six entrants. The revue took place in the glittering atrium of the hotel, with special lighting effects and orchestral accompaniment, before a large assemblage of interested spectators.

Stunt Night<sup>19</sup> achieved its usual success and popularity and Delta province again won first place with "The Old Man of the Sea." Second place went to Lambda province and third to Epsilon.

The work of Zeta Tau Alpha's Health Center, established since the previous convention, was brought closer when Frances Y. Smith, chairman of the National Philanthropic Committee, conducted the altruistic program. Present was the Reverend Kenneth Killinger, mountain missionary, "whose interest and co-operation had contributed so materially to the success and progress of Zeta's work in the mountains." Miss Smith, dressed in the uniform worn by the Zeta



nurse at Health Center, showed pictures of the mountain work,<sup>20</sup> and displayed a reproduction of the log cabin.

Then came the climax of the four busy days! "It was a scintillating affair—the convention banquet," said *Themis*. "Brilliant in wit, setting, the beauty assembled, and extraordinarily clever in theme and execution, it was a gala finale."

With every detail shrouded in deepest secrecy, small groups wondered and chatted speculatively before the banquet hall's closed doors. The first clue came "when the President appeared at the head of the long procession garbed in regal raiment, including a glittering court train and a sparkling diadem of brilliants; but not until the doors were thrown open was the secret of the re-staging of the London Disarmament Conference divulged. Zeta's President, substituting for King George in opening the conference, presented Lucile Miles (Holt), president of Zeta province, in charge of the banquet, who, as hostess and toast-mistress, took the part of Ramsay MacDonald in presiding over the conference-banquet. The theme was the First Disarmament Conference of Zeta Tau Alpha, and the purpose of the "West Baden Treaty of 1930" was set forth in the banquet program.<sup>21</sup>

As the plenipotentiaries were introduced, the initial letters of the subjects of their toasts were found to form the word "Happiness." They were: Article I—"Habits Unbecoming," by Grace Thorne (Kerns); Article II—"Autocracy," by Ann Harbinson (Helmer); Article III—"Poor Scholarship," by Mary Eugenia Hubbard; Article IV—"Pulling Against the Stream," by A. Louise Haines; Article V—"Inferiority Complex," by Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout); Article VI—"Non-Attention to Details," by Florence Leiser (Parker); Article VII—"Eyes that See Not," by Helen Harrison; Article VIII—"Standards False and Unfair," by Dorothy Kvinlog (Hallberg); Article IX—"Service for Self," by Ada Swigart (Hess). Listed as opening the "Discussions of Conference" was Mrs. Gardner. Interspersing the toast-discussions were songs by the Zeta choir.

The "Happiness Pact" was then signed by each speaker, who used the official pen of sterling silver which was then presented to the Grand President by Zeta province for use on other state occasions. The seals affixed to each signature with silver sealing-wax bore the initials of each speaker. These individual sterling silver seals were presented to each plenipotentiary by Zeta province. The pact said: "We, the following, believing that the scrapping of the above weaknesses, which have been actively considered by us, will be a substantial contribution to the future happiness of Zeta Tau Alpha, agree that now and forever they shall be cast aside."

The beautifully decorated dining-room had long tables arranged in conformity with the plan carried out in London. Through the center ran pathways of Spanish moss, sent by the New Orleans Alumnae, with edgings of blue snapdragons. Down the pathway trod dolls representing the various Zeta chapters,

dressed in the styles in vogue when the chapters were installed. At the speakers' table, which faced the others, were seated Miss Smith, Grand Chapter members, program speakers, former grand officers and province presidents. Adorning this table were two particularly delightful province dolls, one representing a founder, Frances Y. Smith, and the other representing Bruce Houston (Davis), an 1899 Alpha member. Breaking the length of the pathway in the center of each table were mounds of turquoise delphinium, pink rose-buds, and baby's-breath. Lining the pathway on each side were dozens of turquoise candles in silver holders. At each place was a blue and silver program, the form and arrangement of which were faithfully patterned after those used in London. Even the arrangement of pact signatures, with the seals, was true in following the original.<sup>22</sup> In fact, all that was lacking was the fog.

Favors were silver link-bracelets bearing the Zeta coat-of-arms, presented by the official jeweler, while as a gift from the Grand President each delegate received one of the new silver and blue Health Center brochures.<sup>23</sup>

Thus a brilliant convention banquet passed into history and the curtain was rung down on the first international and twelfth national convention.

### Grand Chapter Meeting (Los Angeles, California, 1931)

The visiting officer could be routed for chapter inspections in that area; one officer had been in the Northwest for several months; the Vice-President (whose health did not permit travel at that time) lived in Los Angeles, and the President lived in the nearby state of Texas. So, when it was necessary to call a "special emergency meeting" early in 1931, those facts added up to a California setting for the special Grand Chapter meeting that was held in Los Angeles, February 9-14, at the Women's Athletic Club, "to consider matters of vital importance affecting the general welfare and future of the fraternity," such a "meeting being necessary in order to survey present conditions," et cetera.

From Beaumont, Texas, came the President, Bertha Cruse (Gardner); Mildred Snowden (Smith), the Vice-President, lived in Los Angeles; from Seattle came Bernice Kirkham (Terry), Grand Secretary-Treasurer; from Toronto, Canada, came Shirley Krieg (Strout), Editor-Historian, whose trip was the longest, while the National Inspector, May Youngberg, was scheduled for visits in the area. And they reached Los Angeles just as the acacia was in bloom.

The agenda was heavy, serious, and many matters concerned finances and office operations."<sup>24</sup>

Finance Committee recommendations that were approved reflected both consideration of the tightening economic times, and the problem situation occasioning the special meeting. Acting on their recommendation, Grand Chap-

ter passed the following: That "each salaried officer be entitled to one month's vacation with pay, and that any officer taking additional time for this purpose, without the unanimous approval of the other Grand Chapter members, shall be considered taking 'leave without pay.'" That each member of the Finance Committee be furnished with an itemized statement concerning all financial transactions of the fraternity and that an itemized statement of all prior financial transactions, commencing July, 1930, be compiled and forwarded to the committee not later than March 1.

Requests for scholarship loans were thereafter to be submitted to the Finance Committee during the months of December and August, except in an occasional emergency. Proposed loans from the Hopkins Fund were to be referred to them in the same manner as scholarship loans.

Not more than one fraternity fund was to be kept in any one bank. No fraternity money was to be deposited in a bank that was "not a national bank and a member of the Federal Reserve system." The savings account in a Richmond bank was hereafter to be known as the Philanthropic Endowment Fund, and "dedicated to the furtherance of Zeta Tau Alpha's work in the Virginia mountains." The Health Center booklets were to be paid for in full from the Scholarship Fund.

Since philanthropy was the particular project of the *alumnæ*, a survey of developments resulted in Grand Chapter going on record as urging every member of an *alumnæ* chapter to pay dues, as well as urging chapters to send their contributions to the Philanthropic Fund. In fact, Central Office was to "send requests from Grand Chapter asking delinquent *alumnæ* to meet their chapter obligations.

"Because of the inadvisable trend toward commercialism and other evils that might accrue from this practice," Grand Chapter reaffirmed its stand against paying salaries to chapter officers.

The Sesame group at Michigan State College won a formal inspection, Alpha Theta Chi at Manhattan, Kansas, passed, too, while Gamma Epsilon at Washington University was to be granted a charter as soon as they fully met "the requirements of Zeta Tau Alpha." No charters were granted, but two chapters' honor initiates were approved. Since the entire Canadian extension field was under survey at that time, the report of the officer living in the Dominion was of great interest.

In the case of the new constitution just received, the report of the lawyer was to be sent to the new Constitution Committee for checking with the verbatim minutes. Any corrections were then to be submitted to Grand Chapter for approval before printing. But, in view of the late receipt-date and the inevitability of changes "that will be proposed at the next convention," Grand Chapter decided to mimeograph the document under consideration.

A forecast of future convention *résumés* came in a "clarification of the con-



tents" of such a résumé, which was "to include motions passed at last convention and sent to Grand Chapter for approval."

Supervision was a term frequently heard in this period. Conserving time, the Grand President was authorized to confirm appointments of chapter supervisors selected by the National Inspector without other Grand Chapter votes unless a difference of opinion arose. Recommendations were made for the one chapter needing assistance.

"The delayed *Pledge Manual*," it was reported right after the meeting, would "be issued soon by Central Office." The fraternity *Manual* was to be prepared during the coming summer, with each Grand Chapter member to be given her part in it for revision or further preparation. Plans called for working out a chaperone's report and a new national inspection report form. The chaperone's report and Standards for Housemothers, "to be printed on separate sheets for convenient distribution," were also to be included in the *Manual*. The new forms presented by the Scholarship Chairman, Maude Rousseau, Beta Eta, were approved, and the Scholarship Committee was designated to handle future plaque awards.

Province conventions came under discussion. Postponements were not deemed advisable. One inquiring province president (Beta) was so informed and "sent three economy suggestions."

Five dollars in gold was announced as the prize for the winning bookplate design in the competition launched "as a result of the widespread interest created by the January, 1931, Library Number of *Themis*, and the general desire for a Zeta bookplate." The winning design was to be unveiled at the 1932 convention.

Many other items of importance came under consideration, including some appointments, "and the 1932 convention." Since the regular routine of business was covered in conjunction with the agenda of the special meeting, this California meeting took the place of the regular Grand Chapter meeting scheduled for 1931.

All but one officer remained for the convention of Lambda province which followed immediately. And to acknowledge adequately the innumerable courtesies extended to the visiting officers by the hospitable Californians proved almost impossible; there were so many.

### Grand Chapter Meeting (Chicago, Illinois, 1933)

The year 1933 was still very young when Grand Chapter's annual meeting was held in Chicago, Illinois, January 30-February 2, at the Allerton House. Members attending were: Bertha Cruse (Gardner), Grand President; Mildred

Snowden (Smith), Grand Vice-President; Bernice Kirkham (Terry), Grand Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley K. Krieg (Strout), Grand Editor-Historian; May E. Youngberg, National Inspector.

First on the agenda was "a discussion of chapter problems." The word was accurately chosen, for the long shadow of the stringent economic times had fallen over a number of chapters, and there *were* problems, both real and challenging. This was especially true in the case of six chapters.<sup>25</sup> Fittingly, "the condition of every chapter in Zeta Tau Alpha was surveyed in detail and discussed, with many recommendations resulting."

In fact, discussion incidental to the evaluation of the long list of recommendations, and to consideration of the minutes and recommendations of the Finance Committee (who were meeting at the same time), took up a sizable portion of the meeting hours.

That, however, might be considered an understatement, for actually some forty-five recommendations—general and constitutional—resulted from the meeting. They covered a wide "range, from points bearing on the national organization, to a decrease in the initiation fee, and the problem of inactivity." Inactivity was then a burning issue that had to be met.



THE 1930-1933 GRAND CHAPTER

Seated, left to right—Mildred Snowden Smith, Vice-President; Bertha Cruse Gardner, President; Bernice Kirkham Terry, Secretary-Treasurer. Standing, May E. Youngberg, National Inspector; Shirley Kreasan Krieg Strout, Editor-Historian.

Among the recommendations approved and later carried out, one concerned the securing of "an expert reporter [to] take verbatim minutes of the 1933 convention," Central Office keeping a "number of copies" . . . on file for loan to chapters upon payment of a \$5 deposit. The verbatim minutes were not to be printed. Instead, they planned a summary of convention proceedings, and they agreed "that a four-day convention be held."

With a year's postponement of convention\* behind them, and anxious to go ahead with the schedule planned, "one of the first things . . . discussed was the forthcoming 1933 convention . . . to be held at the Hotel Huntington, Pasadena, California, as voted by the 1930 West Baden Convention." An official route was chosen, the program discussed, and plans were made, but even as

\* This action is covered in the succeeding section, "The Depression Intervenes."

they talked, other factors were working in the national scene. Less than two months distant the government was to close all of the banks in the country, and in two months the convention picture was to be radically changed—and viewed differently.

In fact, events moved so swiftly and conditions became so uncertain throughout the country that the mental agility needed was aptly expressed by the President shortly afterwards when she said that, "Things are changing so fast during this present day that decisions made one day are really inadequate to care for the matter involved on the following day, much less a month later. It all depends on the matter under consideration."

But when the meeting closed, the California convention was on the schedule and the publicity for it started at once. And Phi chapter was to be asked to write and direct a convention skit "demonstrating the most effective rushing methods."

An additional work assignment found its way into the official minutes when, among other things, the position of Director of Publicity was to "be added to the duties of the Editor-Historian."

In recommending "that Grand Chapter be given the power to select and appoint girls, both active and alumnæ, to act as coorganizers to work with weak chapters," a future prognostication was made, although not in just that form. Their recommendation "that Grand Chapter be given the power to investigate possible fields of extension, and when necessary to colonize," also looked into the future, as did the decision requiring each chapter to have an alumnæ adviser and an alumnæ advisory board of three members "wherever possible." Every pledge was to own a *Pledge Manual*; active chapters were to be allocated five copies of the fraternity *Manual*, alumnæ chapters one copy, and the alumna adviser one copy. That *Manual*, they felt, should be revised, "if necessary, following each convention, by Grand Chapter."

Designed to cope with the wave of unpaid financial obligations then prevalent in the fraternity world, they recommended remedial pin-depositing measures and the requiring of every out-of-town college member to live in the chapter house except in certain cases. Refusal of a transfer to accept an invitation to affiliate with the Zeta chapter on that campus was also dealt with in a recommendation involving the badge.

Hereafter, alumnæ chapter letters were to "appear in two issues of *Themis* per annum," instead of four, with those letters eliminated from the May issue. A \$1 fine was assessed for each missing letter "since the last convention," and to vote at the next one the record had to be cleared by April 1. They recommended a \$5 alumnæ reinstatement charter fee and "at least one Zeta Tau Alpha educational meeting during the year for all alumnæ chapters." The holding of an examination for alumnæ chapters, "possibly in April," was favored.

One alumnæ chapter, apparently not in favor of a certain piece of extension,



was to have the unfortunate aspects of its methods pointed out—with regret as to procedure and lateness of data. Grand Chapter agreed with the Finance Committee “that each province president must be elected from her own province, and that when a province president moves her permanent residence elsewhere, she must immediately tender her resignation.”

Carbons of all official correspondence were to be sent to all Grand Chapter members by the members of Grand Chapter, province presidents, and committees. Chapters were to pay for all fraternity supplies ordered from Central Office. Cards, acknowledging the receipt of rushing recommendations, were to be sold there, too.

“The new *Rushing Manual*,<sup>26</sup> by Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), was to be printed and issued in pocketbook size for handy and ready reference.”

Much discussed and recommended by the Finance Committee was the adoption of a national auditor. At the 1930 convention, they had recommended the installation of a national accounting system for all the college chapters. Pointing out that “supervision of the system rather than the form is the important thing to be considered,” the chairman then named a commercial system “as the one that would best suit our needs.”<sup>27</sup> This recommendation was to go before the coming convention.

Grand Chapter concurred with the Finance Committee that chapters should have “a visit from a national officer at least once every two years” and the officers were prepared to recommend that the Nominating Committee be composed of two alumnae and one active member. They felt that convention should “go on record concerning its approval or disapproval of a personal loan fund.” And they agreed that *The Link* should “be edited and issued by the Grand Secretary-Treasurer four times during the year.” It was to “be placed on a subscription basis to alumnae members,” at \$1.

Health Center and extension were considered. “All chapters selling Zeta novelties must apply to Grand Chapter for permission to do so,” with five per cent of the commission credited to the Philanthropic Current Fund. A committee was “appointed to make investigations relative to selecting a project which will give a permanent income for the philanthropic work.” An alumnae chapter that had been “granted the right to sell Zeta china” was to be queried about their progress. And the minutes recorded the decision—and hope “that there be no discussion of the constitution or amendments during the business sessions of the first or second days of convention; this to be fitted into the program as the chairman sees fit.”

As *Themis* said, “Much serious consideration, based on the experience of the officers in daily contact with chapters and present-day conditions in the fraternity world, was given each question as it came up”—and myriad questions did come up, with resulting decisions and recommendations. Those recommendations were promptly presented to the fraternity through *The Link*.

Mrs. Zenobia Keller, executive secretary of Phi Mu, generously gave of her time for a short conference on a commercial finance system one afternoon.

"Grand chapter members were honorees at two delightful teas given by the Chicago Alumnæ and the Evanston Alumnæ. The home of Mary L. Patrick, Beta, former grand officer, was the scene of the Chicago tea, while the Evanston Zetas entertained in the home of Mrs. Samuel Lang (Ruth Hodgins), Alpha Phi. The previous week the Evanston Zetas entertained the members of Grand Chapter and the Finance Committee at a luncheon at the Georgian Hotel."

### The Depression Intervenes

The 1930 convention rang down the curtain on an economic era that began its demise with the 1929 crash of the stock market, and once more there was to be an interruption in the normal convention schedule. Drastic and far-reaching were the upheavals between the 1930 and 1933 conventions.

Alleviating or remedial legislative proposals on the part of the country's chief executive were rejected by a Congress in which the majority was of another political party. The stalemate persisted while the darkness of economic depression deepened.

By 1932 the clouds were heavy. The handwriting was on the wall for those with the acumen to read it. To others it was a fantastic blow of temporary unreality, which one collegiate member referred to as "this so-called depression"—and which she advised meeting by "dancing in its face." But it wasn't a "so-called depression," and it got no better. Instead, it got worse.

The scrutiny of historical research finds that Zeta Tau Alpha was one of the first groups to recognize conditions by taking the logical action of convention postponement,<sup>28</sup> for which it was widely commended by others. It was also among the first whose leadership clearly and accurately stated what lay ahead in adjustments. Some saw only results, and battled with those. Others went to the heart of the problem.

Not surprising, then, after the proper steps had been taken, was the announcement that "in deference to the present economic conditions, Grand Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha has decided to postpone the national convention from June, 1932, to June, 1933. The year's delay gives added time to many in forming plans for attendance," the President wrote, for through the subsequent postponement notices of other groups ran reiterated concern over an inevitable, sharp decrease in attendance. Such a decrease was viewed as a major morale hazard that would result in "a distinct loss . . . in enthusiasm and inspiration." Over and over those words recurred—enthusiasm and inspiration.

But 1932 was merely a prelude to 1933. The Grand Chapter meeting early in the year went ahead with convention planning, for already there had been one year of postponement, and to some that was a seriously long interval to be without a convention. The next issue of *Themis* was scheduled to carry the

details, and did. Then, as scheduled in March, the magazine announced the coming convention with fanfare—almost simultaneously with another announcement made by the country's new President—that of the bank moratorium. Many banks closed, never to open again. The gravity of developments in a few weeks demanded immediate reconsideration of convention in the light of sudden events.

Two lines, or schools, of thought developed. The first favored another postponement, with a subsequent vote and the granting of plenary powers to Grand Chapter "to put into immediate effect an economy program to be worked out by Grand Chapter and an emergency budget to be worked out by the Finance Committee on the Grand Chapter economy program." By this time convention postponements were widespread, and Zeta was provided with precedent in World War I's convention postponement and the grant to Grand Chapter of the "power to act," had that course been followed.

A flurry of technicalities arose. President Roosevelt's bank moratorium played havoc with Zeta Tau Alpha's constitutional rulings in the matter of time stipulations. No points of possible conflict were overlooked. The wisdom of drawing heavily on the treasury at this time was debated. The constitutional requirement of alternate delegates was a problem. California was an expensive distance away. Some proposals even suggested competing with Chicago's Century of Progress (World's Fair) for hotel space and the interest of the delegates. And there was an unprecedented nonpresidential call for opinion-votes. By this time, however, sentiment had swung toward a centrally located business convention, *sans* the requirement of alternate delegates, and *sans* social emphasis.

In the end, the May issue of *Themis*, which had been delayed to include the final notice, announced that convention would be held in Excelsior Springs, Missouri, at the Elms Hotel, August 21-23, 1933. "This reconsideration which followed the March bank moratorium, was deemed expedient and consistent with the wisdom of the economic times and was accomplished by a Grand Chapter vote and referendum of the chapters. In this action, Grand Chapter wishes to acknowledge the gracious cooperation of California in the relinquishing of their plans for June," said the President.

The decision was made. The die was cast. And it was late; but work rolled into high gear for a business-emphasis conclave. The elaborate planning of the 1930 convention was replaced by an austerity-minded 1933, that didn't remain quite so austere, after all.

### The Second International and Thirteenth National Convention

While the official voting body numbered 106, the convention summary mentioned the "three days in which 200 Zetas worked and played together," and undoubtedly, a majority of them attended the hospitable pre-convention tea with which Dorothy Swaney (Hillix), president of the hostess province, "enter-



tained the early arrivals" at her home in Kansas City, on Sunday, August 20, 1933. Then they went on to the Elms Hotel in Excelsior Springs, for convention.

Superstitious souls could not fail to notice that this once-postponed and much-debated meeting was the thirteenth national convention. But although that thirteen stared them in the face, nothing more ominous than a gentle, warm Missouri rain greeted the first arrivals. Sixty college chapters and twenty-eight *alumnæ* chapters were represented. Nine province presidents<sup>29</sup> were there. Caution, change and cutbacks were 1933 keynotes. All else followed accordingly.

All members of Grand Chapter (Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Terry, Mrs. Strout and Miss Youngberg) were present at the short council meeting held prior to the opening of convention.

From the first sound of the President's gavel, business was the order of that day and the days to follow. The usual constitutional amendments were on the agenda and "several meetings of Grand Chapter, the Constitution Committee and the province presidents, held for the consideration of proposed constitutional amendments, facilitated the business of convention greatly, and saved much time on the floor."

Constitutional high lights included the defined status of national honorary members as "women who are unable to qualify as active college members, but who had done outstanding work or rendered outstanding service to the national fraternity." Failure of an official delegate to return to college would require the chapter to return her allotted expenses. Each chapter was to have an *alumnæ* adviser; when possible an advisory board, while "inasmuch as the Hopkins Fund was originally a gift to Dr. Hopkins, the entire administration of that Fund was turned over to her."

Protecting the organization was the safeguarding clause that, "when for any reason whatsoever, any grand officer or province president or member of a standing committee neglects her duty or conducts her work in a manner detrimental to the best interests of the fraternity, it then becomes the duty of Grand Chapter to investigate and take action to correct the trouble and, if necessary, by unanimous vote, to ask for the resignation of such member and declare the office vacant."

Also passed was the protective recommendation "that circular communications shall not be sent to chapters of Zeta Tau Alpha without the approval of the majority of Grand Chapter."

Convention again, for the third time, gave Grand Chapter the power to redistribute provinces to the best geographical advantage, and approved expansion by colonization in sections where there were not many Zeta chapters. New was the adoption of the coorganizer plan and the creation of a fund for sending coorganizers to chapters requiring them. Rushing assistance was to be at the expense of chapters requesting it; \$3,000 was the maximum amount for

a house loan; the Grand President was to countersign checks hereafter, and it became "obligatory that the chairman of the Finance Committee be an alumna who holds a certificate of graduation in accounting, bookkeeping and banking."

Reflective of that period when organizations were beset by the problem of members defaulting on their obligations, was the decision that "a chapter may remove a member's pin for nonpayment of dues or other chapter obligations, the pin to be kept by the chapter until the member settles in full." The song-book chairmanship was to continue with the Sigma Alumnae.

The initiation fee was reduced, unchartered alumnae clubs were discontinued and chapter honorary initiates were eliminated. The restriction against smoking was stricken from the Zeta Tau Alpha Standards. Hereafter the individual chapters were to handle the question at their discretion.

Convention continued the Maud Jones Horner Scholarship Gift of \$100 to a student at Longwood College. Delta province's membership certificates, adopted as the fraternity's official membership certificates, were to be procurable through Central Office. Receipts from them were to be allocated to the Co-organizer Fund. Additional philanthropic fund income was to be derived from the sale of the seals presented by Delta province.

Motions passed provided for the keeping of the fraternity finances by an approved fraternity accounting system. Later the Krebs system, which had been tried in eight chapters, was named. In the 1933-1935 budget, expenses and remunerations were cut in all departments. Although this was in the days of deep depression, when all groups were safeguarding funds and reserves for whatever stringencies or emergencies that might lie ahead, the expenditure of nearly \$34,000 in scholarship loans was announced as the total loaned since the 1930 convention—a sizable figure for anytime. Convention placed the interest rate on such loans at three per cent, decided that the maximum loan to one applicant should not exceed \$300, that the loan should be disbursed whenever possible through the university bursar, that the time should not exceed three years (renewals to carry six per cent interest), and that "the general scholarship of the applicant and her value to the advancement of her chapter and the fraternity as a whole should be important factors considered."

A two-weeks' vacation with pay was provided for the Health Center nurse. Grand Chapter was instructed to secure a clear deed to the land used by Health Center, and "due to present economic conditions, Zeta Tau Alpha [was] not to undertake the construction of additional buildings at Health Center at this time."

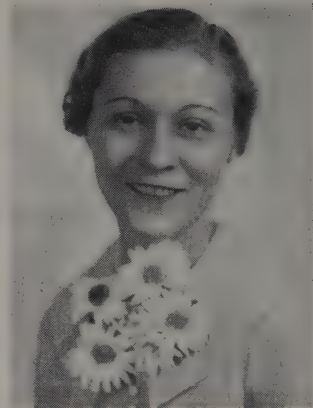
A patroness service, written by Helen Kagay (Prophet), Alpha Gamma, was adopted. Pledges were hereafter to be permitted to attend the Founders' Day service. Publications since the last convention included a new *Directory*, a *Manual for Active and Alumnae Chapters*, a *Pledge Manual*, a *Rushing Manual*, and a rushing booklet, *Zeta Facts*.



Helen Kagay Prophet



Dorothy Swaney Hillix



Elizabeth Steinhauer Ott

The Huntington Hotel, Pasadena, California, the site originally designated for the 1933 convention, was chosen for the 1935 meeting.

The new officers elected were: Grand President, Dorothy Swaney (Hillix); Grand Vice-President, Elizabeth Steinhauer (Ott); Grand Secretary-Treasurer, May E. Youngberg; Grand Editor-Historian, Shirley K. Krieg (Strout); National Inspector, Helen Kagay (Prophet).

Turning to the hours when convention wasn't legislating—Monday night's unaustere program carried two definitely blithe features. At the province dinners, the districts vied with each other in originality and gaiety. Eta province, with forty in its group, had the largest dinner, but Delta's elaborate party was held in a private dining-room. Decorations were noteworthy. Zeta province staged an elaborate plantation scene, with pralines a-plenty. Theta province featured a New Mexico scene, cacti and all. Eta had a Kansas City radio star, Mary Bailey (Horn), Sigma. Delta's blue and silver dinner dispensed modernistic picture frames, an autographed song by Mr. and Mrs. James West (Harriet Schnicke, Alpha Eta), and indulged in humorous contests with prizes. The California poppies of Lambda's party, soon widely distributed, mingled with Epsilon's silver and blue balloons that bobbed around blithely the rest of the evening. Gamma had a white dinner, while Alpha province's garden flowers were arranged in shells brought from Panama by Ada Swigart (Hess). And there was nothing austere about the singing that "was one of the lovely features" of the evening.

Then, laden with favors and trophies, convention tramped to the perennially intriguing rushing program. Clara Slade, Beta Eta, presided. Subjects tackled were: "Obtaining Lists of Girls to be Rushed," Kathleen Knight, Rho; "Organization and Team Work," Jean McKinney (Dalstrom), Zeta; "Tactics in Summer Rushing," Dorothy Bonhus (Thiel), Alpha Tau; "Rush Parties," Frances Horton (Henry), Alpha Nu; "The Problem of Rushing and Selecting the Town Girl,"



Clara Slade; "How Alumnæ Can Help," Helen Reich, Alpha Alpha-Alpha Omicron. Lucy Jean Anderson, Alpha Chi; Geraldine Diamond (Hobbs), Beta Epsilon, and Helen Baker, Beta Zeta, discussed special problems. A clever skit by Myrtle Cooper (Doughterty), Alpha Gamma, and musical selections, ended the evening. Distributed for the first time was "the attractive new silver and gray rushing booklet, *Zeta Facts*, by Shirley Krieg (Strout)."

Health Center had its evening, too, and "every seat in the Assembly Hall was taken as Mildred Snowden (Smith), Vice-President, opened the program. Shirley Krieg (Strout) sketched briefly the background, history and beginnings of Health Center. Dorothy Straub vividly pictured the work she had seen carried on there, then Alice Porter (Moore) brought the project up to the minute by a discussion of its aims and purposes. The Health Center booklets were distributed and samples of handwork, including hooked rugs and mats, were displayed, as were pictures.

The ensuing general discussion considered the future of the work in Virginia. "In order to reach the ultimate goal of usefulness, that of teaching the people of Currin Valley to be self-sustaining and to avoid any tendency toward pauperization, an effort was made to determine the best form for the work to take in the coming years. Out of this discussion came the following adopted recommendations: (1) That Grand Chapter appoint a committee of three to draw up a plan for the development of Health Center over a period of ten years, (2) That the interest on the Philanthropic Endowment Fund be made available for the use of scholarships in connection with Health Center."

After Tuesday night's philanthropic program, May Youngberg conducted an active round table<sup>30</sup> while Mildred Snowden (Smith) held an alumnæ round table.<sup>31</sup>

Dispensing entertainment throughout convention were the unaustere Kansas City Alumnæ who "provided an unexpected" but highly welcome diversion when they "interrupted the various meetings, including one being held by Grand Chapter, the Constitution Committee and province presidents for continued work on the constitutional amendments, with large silver trays temptingly loaded with ice cream and cake." At dinnertime the "side-splitting version of Hamlet" that won first honors at Baker University's Fun Fest was presented.

"*The Chain* was again a four-column daily paper, with interesting cuts, and an attractive make-up," wrote Margaret Terhune (Thompson).<sup>32</sup> In that depression year the Editor "hardly dared hope to duplicate the financial successes of past *Chains* (for none ever cleared less than \$100), but the convention paper again showed a nice profit." And "there was rejoicing, for *The Chain* is entirely self-supporting and starts its career with 'not a cent to its name.'"

Because of the nature of the meeting there were no model services or memorial service.

Came Wednesday night, and out came "formal gowns, evening slippers and

a glittering array of evening accessories to adorn the banqueting Zetas," who were concluding a business-accented convention. The hotel's main dining-room "was a brilliant picture." Lavender phlox and greenery made a floral lane down the long table at which sat the speakers, and past and present officers.

The toastmistress, Lambda province's president, Helen Harrison,<sup>33</sup> skillfully chose a theme in a humorous vein for the evening that was closing a convention that had been interwoven with the strain of tension and seriousness. Instead of formal toasts, the unprepared officers were asked to recount their most humorous experiences while on Grand Chapter. After that the new Grand Chapter was introduced. At the speakers' table was Dr. May Agness Hopkins, a past President, who had been chairman of the Constitution Committee.

Climaxing the evening was the presentation of two exquisite Sheffield trays to the retiring President.<sup>34</sup> From the Texas Zetas of her home state was the tray presented by Margaret Allen Barcus (Kent) of the Houston Alumnae. "The second gorgeous tray, presented by the incoming President, Dorothy Hillix, was a gift from the entire convention." Deeply moved, and surrounded by silver trays, the honoree "expressed her appreciation of the beautiful remembrances she was to take back to Texas as a tribute from the fraternity whose executive she had been for five years."

Reflectively, *Themis* wrote later that "while the farewell dinner, to be in keeping with the business trend of convention, was not supposed to be one of pomp or formality, it nevertheless achieved all the beauty of a formal banquet—the formal gowns and flowers, the program of entertainment,<sup>35</sup> the attractive green souvenir menus furnished by the Elms, and the stationery folios sent by the official jeweler." Viewed years later, the difference became negligible, if not indistinguishable.

Quiet were the halls of the Elms the next day. Laden with work were the new officers who headed into the teeth of the depression and a rebuilding, hold-the-line job in an ability-demanding economic period.

#### CONVENTION AFTERMATH

When the new Grand Chapter met before leaving Excelsior Springs they "considered the redistricting of chapters as recommended by the province presidents during their round table meeting on August 24."

"A new province to be known as Theta province" was created at this time,<sup>36</sup> with various chapters being shifted to different provinces.<sup>37</sup>

The report of the Recommendations Committee presented by Mrs. Prophet was accepted. The Editor-Historian was appointed as alternate delegate to the fall meeting of the National Panhellenic Congress in Chicago.

In accordance with convention's recommendation, the designated commercial finance system was adopted, but the "question arose as to whether this system

must be installed in every chapter." The Secretary-Treasurer was to secure an "interpretation of convention's decision that one duty of the Finance Committee shall be 'to see that the books of the fraternity are kept by an approved fraternity system.'"

One chapter was relieved of national obligations during 1933-34, co-organizers were decided upon for three others, while two under close scrutiny were allowed to go through rushing, further action being dependent upon rushing results.

### Grand Chapter Meeting

(St. Louis, Missouri, 1934)

The 1934 Grand Chapter meeting was held January 19-21, at the Chase Hotel, in St. Louis, Missouri, with all officers present as follows: Dorothy Swaney (Hillix), Grand President; Elizabeth Steinhauer (Ott), Grand Vice-President; May E. Youngberg, Grand Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Grand Editor-Historian, and Helen Kagay (Prophet), National Inspector.

"In the three short, closely-planned days, attention was given to every phase of the fraternity's organization and work," *Themis* reported.

In this, the college's golden anniversary year, it was decided to present the library of Longwood College with an autographed copy of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*. Then, looking ahead, a committee composed of Mrs. Ott, Mrs. Strout and Miss Youngberg was appointed to select a fitting memorial to be placed at Longwood in commemoration of Zeta's founding.

Since the newly appointed National Philanthropic Chairman had personally journeyed to St. Louis, one day was given over to a detailed discussion of Health Center, its legal status, needs and future. Mabel Slout (Weeter), the chairman, was then authorized to obtain "a clear title to the land on which Health Center is built." A "Committee of Three for making a ten-year plan" was to be "appointed in order to conserve both time and money."

Financial considerations reflective of the year included reduction of the price of ritualistic robes. The fee for mailing returned or back issues of *Themis* was set at twenty cents. In line with a 1933 Grand Chapter meeting recommendation, *The Link* was to be "sent to interested alumnæ for ten cents an issue or seventy-five cents a year." Hereafter only unframed membership certificates were to be sold in Central Office. Members were to select their own frames. It was decided not to publish a directory that year. The constitution was priced at \$1. College and alumnæ chapters were required to own copies.

The emergency budget submitted by the Finance Committee was accepted with four provisions: "1) That an amount be set aside for the purpose of sending information to unaffiliated alumnæ to arouse interest in the fraternity and



collect alumnæ dues. 2) That extra help be supplied the Secretary-Treasurer when necessary. 3) That due to changing conditions and NRA Codes and rising prices, a continuation of the previous low prices of publication of *Themis* cannot be guaranteed. 4) That the Constitution Committee be allowed an amount for the printing of the constitutions." The Finance Committee was also to be asked "to reach a decision regarding the proposed consolidating of bank accounts, and 'for this two-year period' it was decided to waive the requirement that the Finance Committee chairman be bonded." Bonding of chapter treasurers, as suggested by one chapter, was not considered feasible. Countersigning of checks was suggested.

A manual for inspectors was to be prepared by Mrs. Prophet, who was authorized "to compile a course of training for coorganizers."

Interesting was the decision "that wherever possible a small picture of each initiate be sent to Central Office at the time of initiation, or as soon thereafter as possible." Whatever the reasons for this, the decision was never carried out.

According to the minutes of the meeting, Rho chapter was to "be inactive the rest of the year, with removal of the charter in June."

Several chapters were placed under national supervision. Supervisors were named. The new coorganizer system was further put into use with the selection of coorganizers for designated chapters in need of them. The supervisors were to send monthly reports to Grand Chapter and the province presidents. In this year of decrease in chapter size and enrollments, the Secretary-Treasurer was to "write all chapters that do not have enough pledges." As double assurance, those sending names of rushees to chapters were urged to send them to the chapter's alumnæ adviser, as well.

"Grand Chapter's consideration of the extension field followed continued expressions of interest in that subject from the organization." The University of Georgia appeared on the agenda.

"That there be no duplication of points in the awarding of honor rings" was the "consensus of Grand Chapter." It was also to be Grand Chapter's policy. The National Inspector was authorized to rework the point system.

The officers also recommended "to the Constitution Committee that they change the term 'Grand Council' to 'Constitution Council,'"—a less confusing name for the new group screening proposed constitutional changes at convention.

Again, perhaps indicative of the restless times, but wholly unprecedented, was a needed "reprimand spread on the minutes and included in [a] message" transmitted to a chapter "who, it was felt, unfortunately merited it."

On Tuesday night the officers were honorees at a dinner given at the Castilla restaurant by Beta Chi and the St. Louis Alumnæ. Mrs. Weeter was also a guest. A round table discussion followed the dinner.

## Grand Chapter Meeting

(Chicago, Illinois, 1935)

"While the entire category of fraternity and administrative work was covered at the Grand Chapter meeting held January 14-18, 1935, at the Palmer House, in Chicago, Illinois," the high spot was the planning of the forthcoming California convention in June. In attendance were Dorothy Swaney (Hillix), Grand President; Elizabeth Steinhauer (Ott), Vice-President; May E. Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Editor-Historian, and Helen Kagay (Prophet), National Inspector.

By this time "nine *alumnæ* groups had chartered since the last convention . . . four more would charter soon," and the Vice-President was to "send credential cards to *alumnæ* secretaries to be brought to convention by delegates."

Precedent-making was the adoption of the policy "that newly installed chapters be under national supervision for five years after installation, that a co-organizer be sent the first year, and a transfer be sent the second year." This decision resulted from "experience and the success of a similar policy with a new group."

The two-year coorganizer system then in full swing received detailed scrutiny. Twenty-one chapters were in line for coorganizer services. Appointees were considered while questionnaires concerning chapter members' plans for the following year were to be sent to *alumnæ* advisers asking for recommendations for coorganizers and transfers.

Health Center was accorded a great deal of time and planning. During a one-day conference with the philanthropic chairman, the officers approved the plan of a commercial soap company to raise funds for Health Center, the committee "to put it into effect immediately." This, however, never worked out. Also, Grand Chapter was "glad to cooperate in every way with the Philanthropic Committee in their efforts to increase the revenue for philanthropic work, but since this is an *alumnæ* project," they felt "that the income must come from that source rather than from other national funds which are so badly needed for active chapter assistance."

Acting on recommendations of the philanthropic chairman, a term longer than two years was to be accorded the chairman whenever possible "in order that the continuity of the work not be disturbed" while, in addition to gifts, "an annual cash contribution to Health Center was to be required from organized groups . . . the amount to be based on the size of the group, with an increase in the amount as the membership increases."

Approving the report of the Committee of Three, Grand Chapter "instructed them to continue their investigation in regard to our philanthropic work," with the Grand President "outlining the work to be done."

It was wisely specified that the ten-year plan for Health Center was "to be submitted to Grand Chapter before presentation to convention," and the Committee of Three was allowed \$25 "for obtaining expert advice for the proposed location of Health Center development." The Finance Committee was to be informed that approval of all philanthropic expenditures was based upon the expectation of an increase in the philanthropic income, and "that Grand Chapter has recommended that the Philanthropic Committee increase their efforts to obtain additional income" for the work. "The grand officers then followed through on their suggestion by recommending "to the Philanthropic Committee that there be a 'special gifts' committee in their own committee to solicit bequests, contributions and outstanding gifts for the philanthropic work."

When the proposed budget was considered, they further specified that "in view of the fact that our philanthropic project is entirely an alumnae undertaking . . . it be supported entirely from sources designated in the constitution and that any money borrowed from other funds be repaid and that the policy of borrowing from other funds for this purpose be discontinued."

Extensive—and to be expected—was the consideration of national and chapter finances in an economic year such as 1935. The conclusion was reached, and the Finance Committee was to be so informed, "that convention assessments [should] be adjusted according to the actual size of the chapter for the years 1933-1935." A "national pledge fee of \$5, [to] substitute for the present convention assessment" was another move decided upon which presaged the establishment of a national fee, but did not dislodge the ever-needed convention assessment.

Interesting and far-sighted changes were made in the proposed budget presented for the officers' approval. Included was the opinion that "we not have a reserve fund but that we build up the balance in our other funds which can, at the discretion of the Finance Committee, be used in emergencies."

A letter from the Federal Housing Administration resulted in the decision "to place a warning in *The Link* regarding the expenditure of funds on chapter houses."

In the realm of publicity, the Editor-Historian presented a newly worked out program for publicity, which was adopted. It was to be included as a section in the soon-to-be-revised fraternity manual "with the exception of the instructions for publicity at the time of the installation of a new chapter, when such instructions would be forwarded at the appropriate time. This program is in keeping with the particular needs and requirements of the times," *Themis* said, "and its formation is the result of extensive experience and observation in both the fraternity and publicity fields of the day. The first press release from the Editor's office was sent out in March."

Mentioned recurringly in the discussion of extension was the desirability of colonization. Georgia was again considered in the decision to "continue the investigation of colonization" there.



When supervisors were discussed, seventeen were listed.

When the question "of placing a plaque at Farmville to commemorate our founding" arose, the National Historian "was asked to secure information to present at convention."

To avoid confusion, and the placing of orders with unofficial jewelers, authorization cards for the official jeweler's representatives, were decided upon.

A definite by-product of the times was the consideration of "a plan for collecting members' accounts" in a day when fraternities were much concerned with "the collection of chapter debts."

One suspension was recorded—an unusual piece of meeting business. And one chapter had the "problem of members eating out of the house."

Decided upon was a reprint of Volumes I and II of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*, with 2,000 sets being ordered.

The Alpha Kappa House Association Board met with the officers one evening.

The program and details of the forthcoming convention were worked out before the meeting adjourned. "Due to Grand Chapter's wish that they devote their full time to the volume of business to be covered, there were no social functions."

### The Fourteenth National and Third International Convention

This was the first California conclave since 1915, when a smaller, eager fraternity had been entranced with a convention "by the sparkling waters of the Pacific." Exactly twenty years had transpired.

After five years of anticipation, all roads finally led to California in 1935 when, after a depression-caused delay of several years, the fourteenth national and third international convention was held June 30-July 4, at the Huntington Hotel, in Pasadena.

Different indeed were the gaiety and exuberance of this gathering as contrasted to the deep-in-the-depression meeting of 1933, but present were some of the aftermath and adjustments of problems which the fraternity was making great headway in solving.

All members of Grand Chapter were present for the three-day meeting<sup>38</sup> preceding convention. But there were other activities aside from the council sessions. True to California, "movies and pictures were literally all over the place, and Grand Chapter made its movie début on Sunday afternoon before the arrival of the buses from Riverside. At that time pictures were taken showing Dorothy Hillix, Betty Ott, May Youngberg, Shirley Strout and Helen Prophet descending the front steps of the hotel," where they were greeted by Helen Harrison, chairman of the hostess province.

"Sound movies then recorded Miss Harrison's greeting to Mrs. Hillix, who briefly acknowledged the welcome and introduced the other grand officers. Each officer mentioned briefly some phase of her fraternity work. These pic-

tures,<sup>39</sup> taken by Films Incorporated, whose parent company was Pathé, were shown to convention prior to the showing of the Health Center movies. It was all very interesting—even if a bit of an ordeal to the willing but inexperienced performers. The movies taken of the arriving buses were also shown.”

The before-the-sun-was-up arrivals on the Zeta special were “duly serenaded into sunny California by Spanish troubadours,” whisked off to the Mission Inn for breakfast, and taken to Eddie Peabody’s ranch before the bus trip from Riverside to Pasadena set them down in a flurry of more picture taking—real talkies this time.” Then, in no time at all, convention was officially in session.

Zetas from all over the country had journeyed to the West Coast to make this the largest convention to date, with 105 accredited delegates and approximately 600 at some of the functions—for the West Coast and the California Zetas attended in force.

Convention heard that the President<sup>40</sup> had signed charters for thirteen new alumnæ chapters and one active chapter, while “two chapters [had] been suspended from normal activity.”



Marjorie Glasson Ross  
The first appointive Field  
Secretary

The new method of screening constitutional recommendations officially came into being when “the first Grand Council meeting under the new constitution adopted at the 1933 convention was called at Pasadena, July 1, 1935.” This body, which was renamed several years later, was composed of the members of the Constitution Committee, Grand Chapter and the province presidents.<sup>41</sup> After passing their scrutiny, constitutional recommendations came on the convention floor. And there was quite a list.

Foremost on the lengthy legislative list was the important change in the setup of the governing council. The office of Grand Second Vice-President was created. The National Inspector became an appointive officer, rather than an elected one. Her new title was that of Field Secretary.

In constitutional changes, “called sessions” were provided for by “a two-thirds vote of Grand Chapter and the province presidents, provided the voting body of the fraternity [was] notified thirty days before the date of meeting.”

Publication of a directory, it was specified, “shall be at the direction of Grand Chapter.” This was ratification of the 1934 Grand Chapter meeting’s recommendation that the “directory be published in the future at the direction of Grand Chapter, rather than at stated intervals.”

A by-law was changed to read “to pay the expenses of province presidents to national and province conventions.”

Adopted was the motion "that the projects and enterprises of individual members, clubs, chapters, and provinces concerned with Health Center be approved, and unless otherwise designated by Grand Chapter, be administered and carried on through the National Philanthropic Committee or other central agency designated by Grand Chapter or the fraternity." It was felt that "by this means duplications and misdirected effort can be avoided and a strong, unified program built."

The Constitution Committee was to consider "(a) revising the standards and points for the honor ring, in order to encourage more service to the fraternity"; (b) granting the provinces the privilege of initiating honor initiates at province conventions—these recommendations, if "worthy," to "be submitted to the 1937 convention for approval." The convention fee of \$5 to "be charged each member attending the next convention" was "taken care of in the budget adopted." Each member paying \$25 for a life membership was to receive a certificate, while in April "of each year" Zeta seniors were to receive a letter urging "them to continue fraternity work through an alumnæ chapter."

As an emergency measure until next convention, and "in order to meet the imminent need existing in some chapters," the Coorganizer Fund was "to be increased by an amount not to exceed \$2500 a year, to be taken from the cash balance in the Scholarship Fund for the assistance of active chapters and, when necessary, colonization may be financed from this emergency appropriation."

After a two-year trial of such a system, convention adopted the recommendation "that, instead of the employment of a commercial accounting system for the active chapters . . . a sufficiently adequate plan of supervision of chapter finances be developed by Grand Chapter and Central Office which will more nearly meet the individual needs and can be accomplished at a great saving of fraternity money. Thus, chapters whose schools require a specified system will be relieved of keeping the double auditing system."

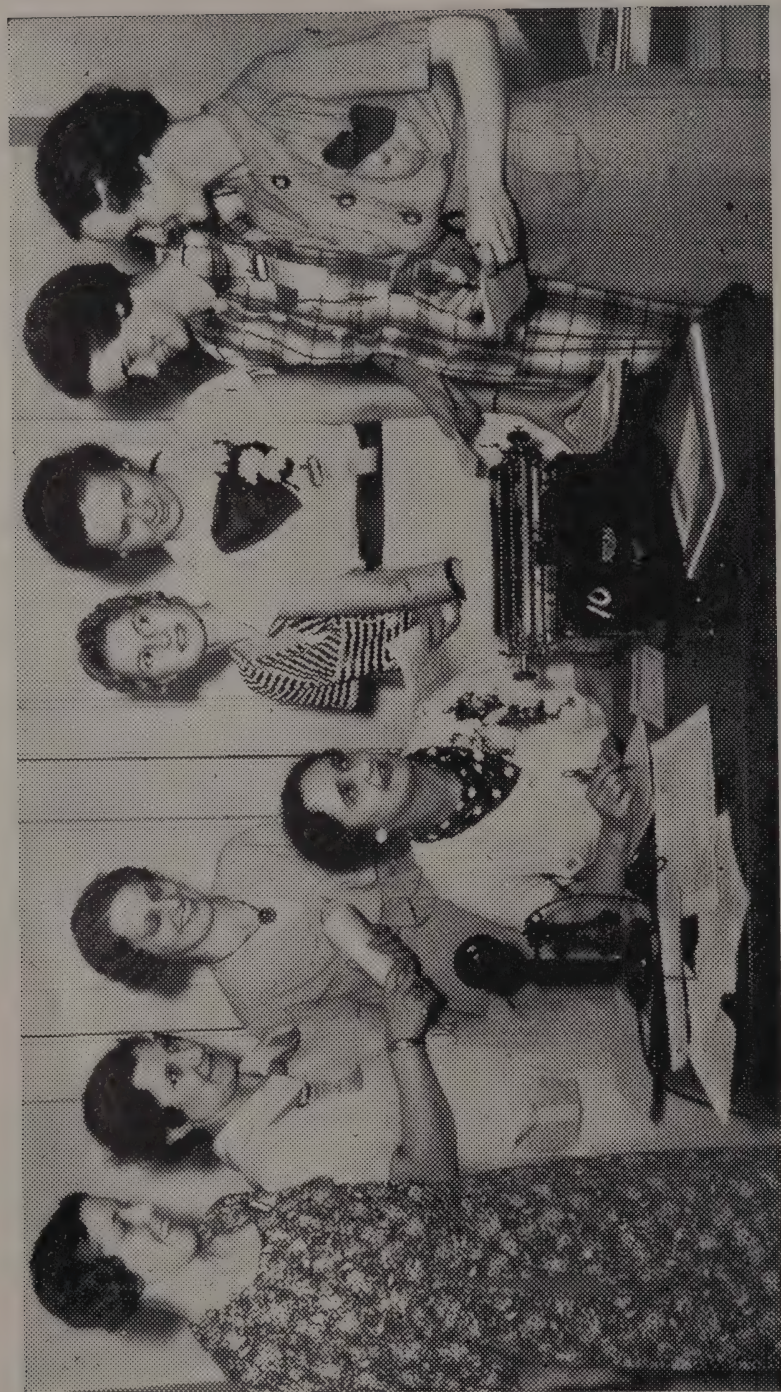
The initiation fee was changed to \$26.50, "the \$5 additional to be taken care of by the chapters, the \$5 to be based upon each girl who is initiated."

All stated amounts were stricken from the constitution and by-laws at this time. This move meant that previously specified allocations to the various funds could be changed at any time according to the wishes and plans of those in charge of budgetary matters.

In September, Central Office was to solicit national dues through "a direct letter to every alumnæ member," with a "follow-up letter sent the following February to those who had not paid." Requests for loans were to be made to the House Advisory Committee "at least ninety days before the loan must be made."

Further tackling a problem of the day, coorganizers were to give rushing assistance to chapters "whenever deemed advisable by Grand Chapter, the expenses to come from the Coorganizer Fund," and Grand Chapter was to "be notified sufficiently early to supply this assistance in the most practical way possible."





THE STAFF OF THE 1935 CHAIN. Said the November, 1935 *Themis*: "There was no doubt about it. This picture seemed to intrigue some of the California editors, who were able to imagine *Chain* reporters going to amazing lengths to ensnare stories. Such as lurking on fire escapes—which was exciting, but not true. *Chain* work was a thrilling combination of work, fun and racing to meet fluctuating deadlines that often stretched far into the wee hours of the morning for those who 'put the paper to bed.' Left to right are: Pauline Johnson, Zelda Reblsky, Grace Harper, Dorothy Dell Doak, Honor Gregory, Betty Frisinger, Gladys Downs and (seated), Shirley Krieg, the editor."

"Grand officers, committees, groups and members [were] to place in Central Office one month before the date of the opening of next convention all reports and recommendations to be brought on the floor of convention . . . the same to be printed and given to each member upon registration."

Convention voted to continue the Maud Jones Horner Scholarship Gift, awarded annually to a worthy student at Longwood College.

A campaign for life subscriptions to *Themis*,<sup>42</sup> and for life memberships, was approved. Seals and membership certificates had duly been sold.

For Health Center, "the most significant accomplishment" reported was "the acquisition, through a gift . . . of a fifty-acre wooded tract of land near Sugar Grove, Virginia, as a site for the second unit of Health Center." A rising vote of thanks expressed "appreciation of this gift secured through the personality of the chairman of the National Philanthropic Committee," while a letter of appreciation was to be sent to the donor.

Convention approved the report of the Committee on the Ten-Year Plan which was to "be carried out step by step, as funds are available." Included was acceptance of the tract of land, renting of the house on adjacent farm land for four years (providing more commodious and comfortable quarters for the staff), adding an assistant to the nurse, with a community organizer and craft worker who was to undertake a program of home betterment to be added later. Summer units, teaching sewing, cooking and recreation were to be established in outlying communities.

Further accenting philanthropy, "the first Saturday in October" was to be "set aside each year by all alumnæ chapters for the purpose of raising money for Health Center."

In the ritualistic field the robes made by the Dallas Alumnæ were adopted "as standard." Chapters were "to make them from this pattern," using specified material. "The present alumnæ initiation service was retained" and an initiation service was to be prepared for the use of Zeta Tau Alpha Mothers' Clubs. Referred to the Ritual Committee was the recommendation "that a funeral service to be used by Zeta Tau Alpha be written."

Volume VI of *The Chain*, "with its five capacity editions" covered "the busy throb of Zeta activity and the fine spirit that prevailed throughout convention," wrote Grace Harper. This included "meetings, social events, back stage activities, presenting white violets of thanks, gathering Zeta Quips, wise and otherwise, and recording them in the columns of our daily breakfast table convention newspaper as accurately and effectively as possible." The last day "the staff reached the sublime height of newspaperdom by putting out both a morning and evening edition."<sup>43</sup> Again, *The Chain* was successful financially.

After Tuesday morning's round tables, "at noon and all afternoon we studied and enjoyed hearing about our philanthropic work in Virginia," one delegate recorded. "We received post-card pictures of Health Center and bookplates to



put in the books we shall donate to the Health Center library. Movies of activities in Currin Valley were shown, and reports given, so all in all it was a philanthropic day." Exhibits were again shown.

Awards were given to chapters placing first scholastically on their respective campuses. Marjorie Glasson (Ross), Phi, received crested bookends "for being the outstanding Zeta scholastically the past two years."

An all-time record for publicity was established. The hundreds of inches of press mention gathered by the Editor-Historian, who directed it, were proof that "news of Zeta's convention appeared in papers from coast to coast, and from the North to the South. Interested groups clustered about the publicity bulletin board, on which, each day, appeared press clippings of the previous day."

"With the gray mist of early morning forming a background for burning tapers," the traditional memorial service paid tribute to fifty members who had

passed on since the 1930 convention, the last meeting at which the service was held. Louise Wright, Chi, conducted it.

In a model initiation conducted early Monday morning by the members of Grand Chapter, Julia Prindle (Nelson) became the Grand Chapter initiate of convention. Assisting the officers were Dorothy Yungbluth (Ulvestad), Beta Epsilon, and Daria Charles, Xi. The model pledge service preceding the ceremony was conducted by Margaret Snyder and Helen James Long, Xi. The ritual service followed.

The New Ocean House, Swampscott, Massachusetts, was selected as the site for the 1937 convention.



#### UNANIMOUSLY RETURNED TO OFFICE

Left to right: May Youngberg, Helen Prophet, Dorothy Hillix, Shirley Krieg Strout, Betty Ott.

The entire Grand Chapter was unanimously re-elected, the Secretary being instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the unopposed candidates. Selected to guide the fraternity for the next two years were: Grand President, Dorothy Swaney Hillix; Grand First Vice-President, Elizabeth Steinhauer Ott; Grand Second Vice-President, Helen Kagay Prophet; Grand Secretary-Treasurer, May E. Youngberg; Grand Editor-Historian, Shirley K. Krieg Strout.

A school for province presidents was held the day following the close of convention.



For months the conservatories of the hotel had experimented with growing white violets, and the profusion of tall blue delphinium used lavishly in table decorations throughout convention taxed the flower-producing capacity of the area, but it never failed. There were flowers everywhere, and engraved on memories was the breathtaking beauty of the altar the night of model initiation, with tall waxen yucca stalks of bloom brought from the desert decorating the sides of the stage.

Festive, colorful and warmly hospitable, the convention was unmatched in social brilliance. The hostess Californians worked unceasingly for months, with results that set the Pasadena conclave apart as something fabulous in the minds of the visiting Zetas. Out of business-session hours, one dazzling function followed another, starting with the opening Aloha dinner when, to gay music, guests stepped over a real gangplank into the "romantic glamour and atmosphere of the Hawaiian Islands" to be greeted by "native maidens dressed in real hula grass skirts," who decorated them with bright-colored handmade leis. And the fragrance of gardenias was everywhere, for each Zeta had one for her hair.

"The program was impressive with greetings in song, Hawaiian music and dances, messages from Helen Harrison, hostess to the convention, with responses from the President, Dorothy Hillix, and more messages from the Founders"—none of whom could attend. After the introduction of the Grand Chapter officers and the Grand Chapter initiate, "there was an inspirational candlelight service . . . which fittingly set the atmosphere for our most beautiful and impressive pledging, initiation and ritual services" that Sunday evening of June 30. This service was the predecessor of the candlelight service that became traditional a few years later.

Monday's sightseeing tour followed the noon Repeater's Luncheon when some sixty repeaters received official parchment scrolls from Adeline Scandrett, Upsilon. The top repeaters, who had attended six conventions—Bertha Gardner, Shirley Strout, Helen Harrison and Ethel Mouton—received "little wooden plaques" bearing the coat-of-arms in color.

Realistically recalling the days of the Gold Rush, a booming Forty-Niner Party that night had a real hill-billy band, with committee members, the waiters and game directors wearing "typical and authentic mining camp costumes." Menus and signs posted around the hall (the transformed hotel dining-room) and on shingles at the tables, were assiduously copied in the rash of similar parties that sprang up all over the country after convention.

Sixteen representatives from other National Panhellenic groups were honored at a formal reception and dinner Tuesday night. After the reception, with members of Grand Chapter and the Grand Chapter initiate in the receiving line, "the formal banquet was carried out in our colors of blue and gray." Following that "there was a new and different type of program in the auditorium—poetry choristers, or a verse choir. . . . The guest artists in this Verse Reading

Quartette—two men and two women from the University—interpreted many familiar poetry selections together, and then ‘staged’ other poems with costume touches and real dramatic action.” Interesting and entertaining, many of the spectators heard a verse choir for the first time.

In preparation for the wealth of original manuscripts and masterpieces of art to be viewed Wednesday afternoon at the world-famous Huntington Library, a member of the staff spoke to the group about the Library, where such celebrated paintings as Gainsborough’s Blue Boy, and Lawrence’s Pinkie are included in the collection.

It was splash! splash! at the evening swimming meet in the Huntington’s celebrated pool when one of the featured races was for alumnæ over thirty. “Then, after the meet almost everyone donned costume attire for the promenade, barbecue dinner around the pool and Stunt Night. It was a gala party with several sets of Dionne Quintuplets, Spanish Donnas, Raggedy-Anns, Hawaiian maidens, Geisha girls, Mexican bandits, pirates, and just about everything else represented.<sup>44</sup>

With a Gay Nineties theme, stunts in the auditorium followed the delightful sunset dinner around the pool. Performing were Cincinnati Alumnæ and Alpha Eta, Eta province, Beta Chi, Xi, Beta Epsilon and Pauline Sundsmo (Geyer), Alpha Xi. The evening ended with an authorized raid on the kitchen for watermelon, popcorn and potato chips.

Spanish in influence was the closing banquet’s theme, “The Beckoning Trail,” with Lillian Short (Morse), Mu, as the “toastmistress who so ably guided us on the historical journey down the Santa Fé and Zeta trails, pausing to toast the Founders, Trail Blazers, Grand Chapter, 10,000 Zetas, and the Trail Beyond—Tomorrow.

“The dining-room was decorated with bright bouquets of zinnias and colorful dolls representing early-California figures. Dons, Donnas, Spanish señoritas, Mission Fathers and Indians were the individual favors hand-painted and dressed by Martha Ray (Denison) and her committee.” Each Zeta received a gay handmade scarf made by the committee members. The speakers’ table held miniature models of a California mission scene, a covered wagon, and a typical beach scene, with wax dolls dressed according to each theme. On each table was a map of a state in which there was a Zeta chapter, “with a picture of a theme appropriate to that particular state.” Programs were maps of the United States made with a linoleum cut. Points on the map indicated every chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha “with a big trail from each leading to California.”

For the first part of the program, “a New Land . . . Discovery,” Ida May Compere (Humphreys), Xi, gave a toast to the Founders, and Gertrude Graner, Xi, sang “The Gypsy Trail.” The next part was devoted to “Trail Blazers and Guide Posts,” with toasts given by Virginia Jackson (Barbour), Delta, to “The Outstanding Leaders in Zeta History”; by Pauline McFarland (Welshinger),

Beta Psi, to "Grand Chapter;" after which Gertrude Graner sang "The High Road." Then "Travelers on the Trail," or the 10,000 Zetas, were toasted by Dorothy Swaney Hillix.

"The Trail Beyond" brought the installation of officers, followed by Dorothy Hillix's "Toast to Tomorrow."<sup>45</sup>

Softly, a standing assemblage sang "The Zeta Trail A-Winding." Then as the convention trio<sup>46</sup> led in the singing of "Promise," the members of Grand Chapter filed silently out and the California convention "was brought to an impressive close."

A post-convention function was the tea given at the home of Lucile Mead (Lamb), Upsilon. Tea was served on the patio, and guests enjoyed "a tour of the house and grounds."

Leaving the gardenia-scented memories of five magic-touched days, the Zetas began homeward treks via Mexico, the San Diego Exposition, the post-convention Alaska trip and scores of personal routes—laden with memories and convention souvenirs.

### Grand Chapter Meeting

(Edgewater Park, Mississippi, 1935)

The National Panhellenic Congress was held in December, 1935, at the Edgewater Gulf Hotel, Edgewater Park, Mississippi. Since Zeta's Grand Chapter members and the Field Secretary were to attend, it followed logically that a Grand Chapter meeting would be held after the Congress adjourned.

So, from December 7-9, Dorothy Swaney Hillix, President; Elizabeth Steinhauer Ott, First Vice-President; Helen Kagay Prophet, Second Vice-President; May E. Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer; and Shirley K. Krieg Strout, Editor-Historian, went through an intensive three-day agenda of work. Also attending was the new Field Secretary, Marjorie Glasson (Ross), who was appointed at the short Grand Chapter meeting immediately after the California convention. She remained during the two days devoted to consideration of chapters.

Many and diversified were the chapter problems in the waning days of 1935. Some needed rushing help, some needed coorganizers, some already had supervisors, some needed a whole group of transfers for strengthening purposes, some lacked sufficient numbers, there were house-ownership problems aplenty, with the constant need for alumnae support and cooperation continually reiterated. But on the other side of the picture, many chapters had escaped the difficulties of the past few years and were reported "in excellent condition." However, ultraconservatism on the part of one strong chapter who seemed to prefer maintaining a small membership, caused "Grand Chapter [to be] greatly concerned over the fact that out of seven chapters on the . . . campus, four chapters secured more pledges than Zeta Tau Alpha this fall, and that although



the quality of the chapter's pledges may be the best, it is absolutely necessary that a larger number be taken every year in order to safeguard the future of the chapter." Later, a grand officer pointed this out in person.

The Grand President was to confer with two college officials in February regarding the Zeta chapters on those campuses.<sup>47</sup> It was decided "to continue Alpha Sigma in a state of suspension for another year."

Considering rushing, the Second Vice-President was to "investigate national rushing programs of other organizations and draw up one for us."

There was much concern over the revelation and discussion of an anti-fraternity movement on one campus, about which the officers had heard during the recent National Panhellenic Congress. The Zeta chapter on that campus was to be instructed "to take no part whatever in the effort to abolish fraternities and to work toward an improvement of the present attitude by improving sorority conditions." A further protective measure was the letter Grand Chapter planned to send to the alumnæ of the chapter "concerning the antifraternity attitude on the campus and pointing out to them what they can do to aid the situation, a copy to be sent to the active chapter." The Field Secretary was to stop after Christmas, "and while there help with the framing of a newsletter to the alumnæ." Grand chapter also "gave careful consideration to," and tried to arrange for filling "the urgent request of the chapter's alumnæ adviser that a member of Grand Chapter visit them."<sup>48</sup>

Several letters of compliment and encouragement were to be sent the alumnæ of various chapters, urging their cooperation in rushing, house support and backing. To some "the responsibility of the alumnæ to the chapter" was to be pointed out, as well as the chapter's "financial relation with Grand Chapter," of which they seemed in danger of losing sight.

The discussion "of the duties of the Grand First Vice-President, and the chairman of the Philanthropic Committee and their correlation" resulted in requesting the philanthropic chairman "to make informal monthly reports to Grand Chapter and to send carbons of all correspondence to the First Vice-President." The Vice-President was to contact the chairman en route home "regarding the Health Center problem and make an investigation at Health Center en route to Florida."

No new alumnæ charters had been granted since convention, but eight were reported pending.

To forestall, or to correct situations, might have been the reason for the decision that all committee chairmen and the province presidents "be advised by the Grand Secretary-Treasurer whenever they exceed their budgets." That officer was also to "make a study of fraternity card systems," and "secure the services of an expert to make recommendations for the installation of a new card system." The deposit fee for those borrowing the verbatim minutes of convention was set at \$25.

The Finance Committee "was requested to investigate the status of our present investments" and report to Grand Chapter, "this report to contain information as to the advisability of retaining those investments or converting some of them into securities with a higher rate of interest." The Committee was also asked "to make a survey of investment possibilities for our present un-invested funds."

Continuing finances, the officers decided to "recommend to chapters that pledges be requested to pay the initiation fee in installments before initiation." This, however, never proved universal, despite its intention of solving the then rather general financial problem among college girls.

A departure from usual custom was the decision "that *Themis* life subscriptions be accepted in installments of \$2 per year for five years, at the end of which time the total amount of \$10 will constitute a life subscription . . ."

Even though editorials had all but disappeared from fraternity magazines as being outmoded, the suggestion was made that the Editor "try out a plan of including short editorials" in *Themis*. Memorial notices were to be restricted "to members except in rare cases." Each officer was to "begin the collection of material for a grand officers' manual."

The Editor-Historian was authorized to "make a collection of autographed books by Zeta authors," while there was a plan for her and the First Vice-President to "prepare a booklet on hostessing for chapters, as a supplement to the *Etiquette Compilation*." It was decided to order Grand Chapter Christmas cards and "printed life membership cards." The membership certificate sketch submitted by the official jeweler was adopted. It was "to have a blue and silver coat-of-arms and a silver seal." A reprint of 2,000 copies of the popular *Zeta Facts* was authorized. The sale price was to be ten cents each.

With one exception, all the coorganizers were "reappointed for the remainder of the year."

The recommendation from the recent province presidents' school "that the Grand First Vice-President send three copies of the *alumnæ* report blanks for *alumnæ* chapters so that each province president could receive a copy of the report for each of the *alumnæ* chapters in the province was approved."

Centralizing fraternity examinations in the office of the Second Vice-President, *alumnæ* advisers were to send the grades to her, but the examinations were to go to the "province presidents, since this is a valuable informational link between them and the chapters." The province presidents' recommendation "that all province officers, *alumnæ* advisers, and outstanding committees, both province and national, be members in good standing" was referred to the Constitution Committee for consideration at the next national convention, but it was a look into the future. Their concern for the still-existent problem of collecting debts was reflected in the recommendation "that mimeographed letters for collection of active chapter accounts be sent out by the province presidents." However,

no action was taken on this because "it is now being handled by Central Office."

Proved sound in the years ahead was the move to send *The Link* "to active chapter presidents rather than secretaries. *Baird's Manual* was to be ordered for grand officers and the Field Secretary. A service book was to be sent to the Custodian of Greek Names, and the songbook chairman was asked to promote more singing in the chapters." Recalling the extensively picturized California convention, it was decided "to have a print made of our color film and have the sound taken out of the talkie."

Extension consideration received a new twist when it was decided "that the Grand President appoint a western extension chairman after she made a certain contact." The President was to "send out announcements of Beta Omega's installation," while "a favorable attitude toward Washington College was expressed."

The meeting had no social aspects other than the Gulf Coast setting and the pleasure of looking at the blue, blue waters of the Gulf of Mexico across from the Edgewater Gulf Hotel.

### Grand Chapter Meeting

(Mackinac Island, Michigan, 1936)

Because the hotel was being considered as a possible convention location, the next annual Grand Chapter meeting was held June 29-July 2, at the Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, with the following officers in attendance: Dorothy Swaney Hillix, Grand President; Elizabeth Steinhauer Ott, First Vice-President; Helen Kagay Prophet, Second Vice-President; May E. Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley K. Krieg Strout, Editor-Historian.

Of the meeting in this idyllic island setting, *Themis* said: "At this time, for four days (and to be exact, for four nights, too), the entire category of fraternity administrative work was carefully gone over. One . . . important high light . . . was the consideration of plans and arrangements for the convention to be held next June, at Swampscott, Massachusetts."

Continuing, the magazine reported that "it was also decided to collect new and old writings on rushing techniques for one compilation, and as a consequence, *Rushing Hints* came out this fall (1937) with the September *Link*. This collection of rushing hints, some new and some gathered from previously published works, was prepared by Helen Kagay Prophet, Second Vice-President, in charge of the administration of active chapter work.

"Another reprint of *Zeta Facts*, the booklet of condensed Zeta information, by Shirley Strout, was authorized and off the press early in September." Since the Mississippi meeting, the order had been changed to 1,000.

With a view to doing likewise for lucrative returns, "Grand Chapter went on record as favoring the securing of detailed information concerning the suc-





THE FIVE TOOK A RIDE

Familiar to the Mackinac scene—the Grand Hotel's equipage of vis-à-vis liveried coachman and gaily decked matched horses.

cessful magazine agency bureaus sponsored by several other fraternities."

In extension, two colonization projects (not brought to fruition at that time) were hopefully authorized. The still far-off chapter at the University of Georgia was one of them. Canadian extension was again studied as it had been at previous meetings. So was Washington College, where, if established, a chapter would be in Alpha province. Approached by an alumna on the subject, the officers felt that reestablishment of the Purdue chapter (Alpha Theta) was impossible at this time.

Rare in Zeta minutes was the forthright record of a discussion concerning "the lack of efficiency of three national committees," with the President planning to "write the chairman and the committee members regarding their duties."

In the careful consideration of each province and its chapters, summaries were presented and plans were made for each where needed. The coorganizer field, extensive by now, was gone over, and many names were recorded for accepted or possible assignment. One chapter was accorded its request for a resident tutor, the two new chapters (Beta Psi and Beta Omega) were to be watched over closely, while another was in line to have supervision removed if it met the list of "ifs" set down. Included in the administrative policy of this time were freshman scholarships. Rushing plans and assistance were drawn up.

One officer was to conduct "a thorough course of training by mail during the summer for one individual," with other officers in the picture "next fall."

Detailed was the consideration given province matters, with recommendations from province conventions being studied. "As a policy of this administration it was decided that the Grand President [would] have supervision over the work of the province presidents with the exception of inspections." In the

President's "check-up letter to province presidents the following points [were to] be included: 1) Routine notification of Grand Chapter of time and place of convention, 2) routine procedure regarding carbons, 3) extension advice, 4) scholarship and 5) typing of all letters.

"Grand Chapter's policy regarding carbons of province presidents' correspondence" was also established as follows:

That carbons on routine matters should go to the grand officer particularly interested in the subject matter and that in the case of any question or problem arising in a chapter, carbons of all correspondence in the case should be sent to all members of Grand Chapter.

Anticipating the next province presidents' school, those province officers were to "be notified that they [will be] expected to be present for the entire session on the day following convention." The proposed handbook for province officers, to be compiled by the Second Vice-President, was discussed, all the officers agreeing to send suggestions for it by September 15. Also, each grand officer was to compile material for her section of the proposed grand officers' manual to be sent to other officers by November 1.

A study of the charter was to be made "before ordering new charters." Jacksonville, Jackson and Winnipeg were "almost ready to charter," it was reported, and, with the assistance of the First Vice-President, the Secretary-Treasurer was hereafter to compile the list of *alumnæ* secretaries for *Themis*.

The fraternity examination for 1936-1937 as submitted by Katherine Comley, was read. Later, Elizabeth Orth (Steinko) was appointed to the vacancy on the Scholarship Committee caused by Katherine Comley's election as province president.

Matters brought before the officers by the traveling officer were discussed and decided upon.

The suspension of Alpha Sigma was to be continued another year.

When the Grand President made the "official inspection of Denver *Alumnæ* next year," she was to "take care of the secret material" of Alpha Epsilon, which was inactive by that time.

The financial status of several houses came under consideration, one due for imminent refinancing being reported. This was an active field of discussion in 1936, when the status of houses built or bought in the pre-1929 boom days had changed drastically.

After much investigation and activity during the meeting, a new venture was launched when the officers moved to ask the House Advisory Committee to approve a loan of \$3,000 to Beta Tau from the Chapter House Loan Fund, "to be held in reserve and paid out only if Beta Tau should ever default in payments on their lodge and the national organization be held responsible because of signing the contract." This was because of the authorization of the Grand President and Grand Secretary-Treasurer, "as officers of the corporation," to sign the contract with the contractor, the Beta Tau house corporation giving



the fraternity "notes to cover the amount of the contract." Thus, based upon a full knowledge of the facts of the case, was consummated the first co-signing ever done by the fraternity—and with satisfactory results.

The question of "just what land has been taken over by the government and how that will affect the gift announced at last convention" was a vital Health Center problem of the moment, which the President was to go into further with the chairman. Meanwhile, they gave assurance of Grand Chapter's "willingness to cooperate" in the matter of the requested "more comfortable and larger Health Center quarters, at such a time as there are funds available and it is possible to obtain unencumbered property." Greater emphasis than ever before had been placed on the philanthropy "because of the Field Secretary's opportunity to be instructed in this phase of her work before starting on her first trip, and because she has taken Health Center movies with her." But "disappointment" was expressed over the 1935-1936 philanthropic contributions. "Since stimulation of interest in our philanthropy comes under the jurisdiction of the Philanthropic Committee, and since the 1937-1939 budget will be based upon the 1935-1937 income," concerted remedial action was urged.

The meeting accepted the minutes of the 1935 convention and awarded the Maud Jones Horner Scholarship for 1936-1937 to Betty Bracey. *The Link* was to emphasize a revival of the tradition of each member earning her annual scholarship contribution. Grand Chapter then worked out a tentative budget for 1937-1939 to be recommended to the Finance Committee.

"Concerning the method by which an additional appropriation for co-organizers could be made," Grand Chapter was definite that "in view of the ruling of the Constitution Committee," the Finance Committee was requested "to exercise the power assigned to it under Article IV, section 1c of the by-laws."

When convention planning came on the agenda, "Beatrice Clephane's suggestion that reports be incorporated in the minutes *by reference*," and "each officer, province president and committee chairman prepare six copies of reports to be attached to the verbatim minutes," was approved. Province presidents were to keep their reports "as brief as possible." They were to be notified that these reports were to be in Central Office one month before convention.

Evidently a clarification was needed, for the officers "went on record as interpreting the intent of the convention concerning reports as follows: that this recommendation be applied to any matters on which action must be taken on the floor, except those which are otherwise provided for in the constitution. Therefore, the following material is to be handed to members at the time of registration: recommendations and budget." Also, they concluded that "since province presidents' reports are not read on the convention floor," they should be "included in the material given to the members at registration."

The \$5 registration fee again came up. They recommended that everyone



attending convention pay it. Not too definite except as an expression of opinion was the decision "to recommend that some method other than convention assessments be devised to raise expenses for convention."

Many convention appointments and committees were settled. Indeed, the salt air of the Atlantic Ocean seemed almost to reach the inland lake island as a tentative program was being worked out. Presaging a new feature greatly anticipated, the preparation of a historical exhibit by the Editor-Historian was authorized.

"There were no social events during the meeting. The accompanying picture was taken during a short, but highly interesting drive to some of the historical spots on historical Mackinac Island." Of that ride the Editor particularized:

The picturesque equipage, a familiar one on the island, is reminiscent of the age of elegant horse-drawn vehicles and is [one of a collection] owned by the president-manager of the hotel, Mr. W. S. Woodfill. The carriage is a vis-à-vis. One of the charms of the island is the fact that no motor cars ever have been allowed, so upon arrival by boat one's method of transportation is by horse-and-buggy, bicycles, roller chairs, or one's own foot work. In late June the century-old lilac trees (yes, trees not bushes) and the giant honeysuckle were exuding an unforgettable fragrance and the island was an entrancing picture with its beautiful vistas and surrounding expanse of blue water

It was also early in the northern season, so the morning temperature was often a bracing or shiver-inducing 58°—depending upon one's temperament or stamina.

At the conclusion of the four days and nights (for, as at St. Louis, there were night meetings and one all-night meeting in order to finish on time), "filled to the brim with concentrated work—so concentrated that the staff of the hotel concluded that fraternity officers work harder than the average layman could ever believe," the meeting concluded. Gratified over "the vast amount of work accomplished, and the forward-looking plans for the fraternity," the officers "dashed for the boat and" dispersed to their respective homes to "carry on."

And "incidentally," it was added, "the summer work done in some offices was unusually heavy, and the closest of check-up work with chapters was carried on uninterruptedly."

### **The Fifteenth National and Fourth International Convention**

The salt air of the Atlantic Ocean became more than a dream in 1937, when the first Zeta conclave to be held on the Atlantic seaboard since 1912 had the New Ocean House in Swampscott, Massachusetts, as its setting.

For months a steady stream of alluring "Go East" stories in *Themis* told of the beauty of the setting "at Red Rock<sup>49</sup> . . . on a curving beach of pure white sand . . . along the sea on the highway built upon Puritan Road, the oldest and most famous Indian Trail along the exclusive North Shore, known as 'The Path of Peace.'" And the charm of the location, "in a cradle of America," and the

glories of New England—from history and scenery to the bean and the cod—proved irresistible to the 300 Zetas who converged on Boston and thence to Swampscott for the fifteenth national and fourth international convention held June 27-30, 1937.

A four days, intensive Grand Chapter meeting<sup>50</sup> preceded convention's opening, with all five grand officers present.

And before convention opened, "photographers came and went and pictures rolled merrily on during that meeting," *Themis* said. "Pictures of Grand Chapter appeared in *The Boston American* and *The Boston Post*, early upon their arrival—in fact, one picture was taken before ten o'clock one night.

"Then almost before everyone was properly welcomed, registered and situated in the hotel, the quick pace of activity began with the formal reception honoring the grand officers," said *Themis*. "Backed by ferns and palms, the receiving line looked very regal with their orchid-studded shoulders and their sweet smiles of welcome for everyone." The hostess province, headed by Alpha Rho and Syracuse Alumnæ, was in charge. In the receiving line were Dorothy Swaney Hillix, Grand President; Betty Steinhauer Ott, First Vice-president; Helen Kagay Prophet, Second Vice-President; May Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Krieg Strout, Editor-Historian; Marjorie Glasson Ross, Field Secretary; Louise Wright, president of Gamma province; Amy Corkum, president of the Boston Alumnæ.

"Faith Baldwin, brilliant novelist and Grand Chapter initiate, was an honored guest and attracted enthusiastic groups all evening. Judge Raedy, the second initiate, arrived later. Many representatives from other National Panhellenic organizations were also present."

Business got under way June 27 at two forty-five o'clock when the opening session convened. In the next busy days much legislation was recorded.

When amendments to the national by-laws were adopted, one change read that "the right to vote shall be accorded every Grand Chapter member, the Field Secretary, each province president, one official delegate from each college and alumnæ chapter or the alternate in the absence of the official delegate."

A redistribution of duties in the offices of the Grand President and Second Vice-President was made. The Grand President was to "direct the work of the Field Secretary, with the advice of Grand Chapter," and also "direct the work of province presidents" with Grand Chapter's advice. Although such schools—experimental at first—had been conducted at two previous conventions, official cognizance was taken of them when one of the duties of the Grand President became "to conduct [a] training school for province presidents."\* The First

\* Said Helen Prophet's report: "Plans have been made for the province presidents' school, which the Grand Second Vice-President is holding the day following this convention." The province presidents, the outgoing and incoming Grand Chapter and Field Secretary were to be present. "The training school for province presidents, which was formerly conducted

Vice-President no longer had to sign the alumnæ delegates' convention credentials, and instead of the former stipulation "to stimulate the interest of the alumnæ" the new wording put her "in charge of the alumnæ of the fraternity."

The Second Vice-President's duties made her an ex-officio member of the Scholarship Committee, and specified that she was to "prepare and distribute to college chapters the official *Pledge Manual*." The Secretary-Treasurer was to "act as an ex-officio member of the Finance Committee and House Advisory Committee," as well as "prepare and distribute to each college and alumnæ chapter a copy of a uniform *Manual for Actives and Alumnæ*." The Field Secretary, now included in the Grand Council (constitutional) meeting, was to "act as the official delegate of the fraternity to all chapters and to petitioning groups when sent by the Grand President." She also became chairman of the Ritual Committee. Province presidents were to "visit and inspect each active and alumnæ chapter once during two years, the visits alternating with those of the Field Secretary."

Mentioned previously, it now became a constitutional requirement that "all officers of the fraternity, all national and province officers, all members of national or province committees, and all alumnæ advisers be required to be members in good standing in the fraternity." It had not been unknown for motions passed at conventions to turn out later to be in conflict with already established rulings. So, probably just in case, "convention passed a motion to authorize the Constitution Committee to bring into conformity with the actions of the convention any portions of the constitution and by-laws which may be in conflict therewith."

Venturing into a new plan for rushing coordination and improvement, the appointment of a National Rushing Chairman was authorized, as was a National Director of Chaperones. The former was "to relieve the Grand Second Vice-President of that part of her duties."

Continued chapter assistance was provided for when, "in view of the need which still exists in some chapters," it was stipulated that "another emergency appropriation of \$2,500 per year for the coming two-year period be made from the Scholarship Fund."

So that collegians would know their way around parliamentarily, training in parliamentary procedure was to "be required in both active and pledge groups."

"The 1937-1939 budget adopted included an increased appropriation providing for more help in Central Office, and an increase in the remuneration of the officer in charge of the office."

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by the National Inspector, was turned over to the Second Vice-President [who was the former Inspector]. But since the province presidents work with alumnæ chapters, as well as active chapters, in addition to carrying on routine province business, I felt that it would be more fitting if the Grand President presided at the school."



Although much discussed, no adjustment was made in alumnæ dues, which remained \$1 a year. A national pledge fee of \$5 was adopted, however, "with a proportionate reduction in the initiation fee."

Hoping for more alumnæ financial support, "convention voted for an aggressive campaign during the coming year for the collection of the \$1 alumnæ national dues, and that a lawyer, preferably a Zeta qualified to practice law in Virginia, be selected by Grand Chapter as adviser to the National Philanthropic Committee." Also, one member of that committee was to be "qualified to handle publicity."

This conclave was held in Zeta's thirty-ninth year—the span of years causing the fraternity to forfeit the celebration of its fortieth anniversary, which would have been possible had the rotation of years been different. Thus, looking ahead to the fiftieth anniversary, convention empowered "Grand Chapter to work out a plan of rotation for presentation to the next convention, which will provide for a convention in 1948, which marks the fiftieth anniversary."

Publicity was accented by the adoption of a recommendation to have a chapter publicity chairman, in addition to the present National Publicity Director, in charge of publicity.

The Maud Jones Horner Scholarship Gift in Virginia was to be continued, but it was deemed advisable to have a later date for Health Center Day. After convention, December 4 was selected.

Since one province considered the \$25 deposit fee charged for lending the verbatim minutes "excessive," the deposit fee was lowered to \$10.

A funeral service for use by the fraternity, and a Mothers' Club initiation service were adopted, as was the ritualistic equipment displayed at the ritual exhibit, "with the exception of the robe for chapter members to be worn at initiation." The Ritual Committee was to rewrite "the service for the installation of Grand Officers," with the approval of Grand Chapter, "for presentation to the 1939 convention."

The long-used term, Chairman of the Songbook, became Chairman of Music.

"Sea food and journalism [were] ever more entwined in fond memory" by the staff of *The Chain* who "made hustle and bustle getting the news of the day to be printed that night [with] results to be had the next morning when the daily issue was distributed at the dining-room entrance." Those who had "fun and not fury in pursuing their delegated duties" were—Editor, Shirley K. Strout. Business Assistant, Dr. Frances MacCraken. Editorial Assistants, Margaret Ohlson (McAdams) and Elizabeth Hillix (Foellinger). Also—Nellie Chamberlain, Lucille Shoulty (Tomey). Elizabeth Chambers, Ruth LaBar (Dunning), Jane Knabel; Emily Grimes (Koppitz), Ruth Beegle (Williams), Zelda Rebelsky (Anderson), Helen Murrell Beck, Louise Woods, Wilma Hurley, Ruth Putnam.



Marion Mayer Bergin  
Field Secretary

Again, successful—the Editor “was able to hand over a tidy sum to the Zeta treasury.”

Grand officers elected were: Louise Kettler (Helper), Grand President; Elizabeth Steinhauer Ott, First Vice-President; Lucile Reece Roberts, Second Vice-President; May E. Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley K. Krieg Strout, Editor-Historian. At the brief meeting following convention, the new Grand Chapter announced the appointment of Marion Mayer (Bergin), Alpha Nu, as the new Field Secretary.

Turning to the Middle West region for the next convention, the Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, Michigan, was chosen for the 1939 meeting place.

### *Première of the Historical Exhibit*

“The tapestry of the past is always fascinating, but a cloth woven of memories and events of the past, concerning something which is as dear to our hearts as Zeta Tau Alpha, is especially interesting” ran the review of the Historical Exhibit<sup>51</sup> shown for the first time at this convention. For the Historical Collection that was to be outstanding in the sorority world had its première showing at Swampscott. An extensive collection of priceless and irreplaceable treasures carefully collected over a long period of years, this exhibit became one of Zeta Tau Alpha’s most carefully guarded and cherished possessions. Thereafter, it became an important feature of conventions.

“One of the hotel’s largest rooms, the President’s Room, was completely filled (even the wall space), with valuable documents and mementoes featuring the Founders, the days of founding, and the very early years of Zeta Tau Alpha’s existence,” Elizabeth Hillix (Foellinger) wrote. “It could keep one occupied for hours if fully scrutinized, and since convention fell on the year preceding Zeta’s fortieth anniversary, the National Historian named it the Pre-Anniversary Exhibit.” She enumerated a few of the rare documents and mementoes:

The oldest charter of an active chapter in the fraternity, that of Delta at Randolph-Macon Woman’s College, and the only one existing today that was signed by the first President, Maud Jones Horner, was a feature of the exhibit, as was Delta’s water color of the early vignette. Ruby Leigh Orgain sent a fascinating memory book which she had at college. It, in itself, is an engrossing account of the life of one of the Founders. Sent by her was even a paper napkin used at the famous oyster stew, properly inscribed.

Irreplaceable and precious documents are carefully preserved under glass, some of them being framed so that both sides are readable. One of these is a rare copy of the first issue of *Themis*, the fraternity’s magazine, now thirty-four years old, which has been carefully framed reversibly. Of unusual interest is the original bill drawn up and passed in Virginia by the legislature when Zeta Tau Alpha became a legal corporation. With it is also shown a clipping from the Richmond newspaper, commenting upon the bill as

"unique." There are original souvenirs of the famed oyster supper, grocery bills of early Alpha chapter for their spreads, early bills for badges in Farmville, and treasured notes addressed to "???" (The Three Question Marks) by other Farmville organizations and members of the Three Question Marks themselves, thanking their sisters for gifts.

Early and up-to-date pictures of the Founders were collected and many personal souvenirs of the Founders were shown—baby clothes, personal jewelry, keepsakes, black satin dancing slippers with pointed toes, and heavy black silk hose, the prayer book used at Mrs. Orgain's wedding, fraternity pins that were mementoes of early romances, and the fascinating story of a lost Pi Kappa Alpha badge that finally found its way back to Ethel Coleman



Louise Kettler Helper



Lucile Reece Roberts

Van Name. Documents and records of Old Beta, Gamma, Iota and Eta chapters—all inactive now—were most interesting and illuminating. The original petition of Theta chapter was also on display, as were early letters concerning Delta's founding.

Mounted on white velvet was the first Zeta pledge pin (in stickpin form), the Founder's badge of Frances Yancey Smith, and the early official stickpin which is mentioned and pictured in Volume I of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*. All of these pins are extremely rare and valuable.

On black velvet many interesting pieces of jewelry belonging to the Founders were displayed effectively. There was the glittering ivory-and-sequin party fan belonging to Ethel Coleman Van Name. Helen Crafford's graduation gifts elicited much interest, as did the ornamental buttons from Ruby Leigh Orgain's wedding dress. Alice Coleman's original bevelled-edge badge was shown, as was the massive key to the island home of the Colemans in Tidewater, Virginia. Hatpins of former days brought forth many comments. So did Alice Coleman's vinaigrette and Ethel Coleman's silver mesh bag which she wore on her belt. Keepsakes and jewelry covered a long table. Copies of the annuals, *The Normal Light* and *The Virginian*, containing the first pictures of Alpha chapter, and including the famous "mystifying" picture, were on display.

The original wide satin ribbons in true turquoise blue and steel gray and the first seals used by Maud Jones, when she was President, were shown effectively framed, together with a letter to Maud Alexander in which Mrs. Horner filled an order for ribbons. The ribbons and



seals were given to Mrs. Strout by Mr. Horner after Mrs. Horner's death. Many lingered over the 1894 and 1896 copies of *The Youth's Companion*, which was a favorite magazine in the Founders' day.

Following the pattern set in California, publicity in the East rivalled that in the West.<sup>52</sup> In fact, if "publicity is any criterion," *Themis* said later, "convention was a widely known event . . . attested by a wealth of clippings from coast to coast." *The Chain* commented that "with a radio broadcast over Boston station WAAB, the largest independent station in the city, with photographers around on every occasion, with pictures and stories in *The Boston Transcript* (which carried the most complete daily accounts and features), *The Boston Herald*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Boston American*, and *The Traveler*, as well as many North Shore papers," the Boston and Atlantic coast area knew that the Zetas were there. "The broadcast was given Tuesday at ten o'clock on Estelle Marsh's 'Club Program of Women's Activities.'"

The tradition of a White Day at convention—thereafter to be part of every program for many years—originated at this time. When Sunday morning dawned, all the Zetas appeared in white dresses.

The memorial service was held that morning, with A. Louise Gale (Haines), Rho, conducting. The Boston alumnæ were in charge. In the cool of the New England morning, "chapter representatives placed white carnations on the altar in memory of the members who had passed on."

It was compulsory for all delegates to view the ritual exhibit that morning. With living models, the ritualistic services were portrayed with official regalia. A large percentage of the delegates acted as models and participated in the exhibit which was in charge of the Field Secretary, with Marion Mayer (Bergin), Alpha Nu, acting as hostess. It was hoped that uniformity of services throughout the fraternity would result.

That evening the White Dinner in honor of the Grand Chapter initiates—Faith Baldwin, "known for her stirring and human style of writing and an altogether charming personality, and Judge Ellen K. Raedy, one of three women to be appointed to the bench in a municipal court of record"—established the day-long white motif. The initiates were previously honored at a pledge luncheon arranged by Theta chapter.

With all-white table decorations of gorgeous white flowers, tall tapers in silver candlesticks, and the beautifully gowned Zetas in white evening gowns, the picture was dazzling. Even the favors were white leather-covered blotters. Lucile Lewis, Chi, presided. The Grand President introduced the initiates, each of whom "spoke delightfully." And beautifully staged were the impressive model initiation and ritual services held later.

New York Alumnæ's Scholarship Luncheon had Lucile Reece (Roberts) presiding. Nine chapters, through their official delegates, were awarded plaques for having the highest scholarship on their respective campuses for one

year. They were Chi, Beta Tau, Lambda, Beta Iota, Beta Eta, Beta Chi, Mu, Alpha Tau and Beta Nu. Honorable mention for having the highest campus averages for one semester went to Zeta, Beta Lambda, Alpha Nu, Alpha Pi, Beta Theta, Alpha Xi, Beta Upsilon and Alpha Iota. A pair of crested bookends went to a Phi Beta Kappa—Clare E. Hallett, who had the highest individual scholarship record in the fraternity.

That afternoon, the Zetas "started somewhat damply,<sup>53</sup> but enthusiastically, on the scheduled Gloucester trip. Half of the group went by bus and returned by boat, and vice versa. Those on the bus saw interesting parts of Salem, the famous Fisherman's statue, and some of the beautiful estates along the coast. At Gloucester the party was taken directly to the wharves around which bobbed sailing craft and fishing launches of every kind. Such hubbub as there was, changing from one conveyance to the other, and on the return trip as the various landmarks were pointed out from the sea, the sun was lenient enough to shine through for a bright homecoming."

In the "evening everything was prepared for a complete shore dinner—the first that many Zetas had ever tried—by a committee headed by Eva Witham, Boston Alumnae. Entering into the spirit, everyone came attired in colorful beach wear and sailor hats to attend a shore dinner—in the dining-room, for the non-cooperative weather prevented it from being held on the beach in front of the hotel. There was jolly singing and dance music during the outdoor dinner that was held indoors. Greatly prized were the unusual favors of quahog and scallop shell ash trays decorated in Zeta colors.

"Following the shore dinner everyone rushed around collecting props for the province skits<sup>54</sup> given in the ballroom. The theme of the evening was:

"Little fishes in the brook,  
Kay caught them by the hook.  
Gamma fried them in a pan,  
Convention ate them like a man."

Each province was named for a fish, and at the end of the evening the prize-winning fish was bought by the judges. Beta Beta was in charge, with Katherine Kent, Alpha Rho, as the fisherman who fished out the skits. Zeta province's mock chapter meeting in rhyme was the winning stunt. Delta province's "two old fishermen gossiping over their lines," received honorable mention.

"An interested audience sat enthralled while rushing by practical demonstration was unfolded Monday evening in the ballroom of the hotel by actor-members and speakers from all over the country." Comprehensive, and staged in this elaborate form for the first time, it was a different kind of rushing program "with practical talks, skits and illustrations."

At Tuesday noon's Philanthropic Luncheon, Carol Bryant (Ustick), of the New York Alumnae, spoke on the value of philanthropic work. Isabel Hoover, Beta Beta, introduced her. Mabel Slout Weeter was in charge.

Favors were small maps of the Appalachian Mountains showing points of Zeta interest, including Farmville, Virginia, and Currin Valley, Health Center's location. Delegates were seated at tables according to birthday months.

Coming from the busy afternoon session, the delegates were transported back to the period of Paul Revere, the Old North Church and "one if by land; two if by sea," as they entered the dining-room for the province dinners, under the direction of Isabel Crownover, Philadelphia Alumnæ. Guests were seated according to provinces. The honor guests—national officers and national committee members—progressed from table to table as the courses changed. "Each province, given three minutes in which to brag about the achievements of its chapters and members the last two years," did just that.

After a clever Mammy Breakfast, at which favors were tiny black wool-and-calico mammies, *The Chain* had this to say about Wednesday's Repeaters Luncheon: "A miniature lighthouse flashed its welcoming beacon to the veteran convention-goers. . . . Repeaters who had attended the largest number of conventions were seated at the speakers' table. Dorothy Sterner, Alpha Beta, presided. Other repeaters, including those who had attended more than one convention, sat at tables arranged down the middle of the room. Diplomas in the form of life preservers, and anchors labeled S. S. *Zeta Tau Alpha*, were presented to the honor guests. The nautical theme was effectively carried out in the first course—honeydew melon cut in boat shape, topped with a blue-and-silver sail, afloat in a sea of blue ice."

Alpha Tau's "Hail Zeta," with words and music by Anna Bell Hyde, was the prize-winning song. The May, 1938, issue of *Themis* printed it.

"The Landing of the Pilgrims" was the theme of the closing banquet held "in a beautiful setting of steel gray and turquoise blue." Toast subjects were: "The Founding of the Colony," by Beatrice Clephane, Washington, D.C. Alumnæ, who spoke on the founding of Zeta; "The Chronicles of the Colony," by Honor Gregory (House), president of Delta province, mentioning prominent members who had brought Zeta to its present high position. There was "A Hymn of Praise," with the singing of Zeta songs, and "The Return of the Mayflower," during which the old and new grand officers and other honored guests were introduced by the toastmistress, Iva Brashear, Theta. Discoursing on "The Pilgrim Maidens," Dorothy Hillix, the retiring Grand President, looked into the future of Zeta Tau Alpha.

In recognition of her services, Mrs. Hillix was presented with a silver tray from the fraternity and a dozen Bethany College plates from her own chapter, Theta. The prize for the best chapter exhibit was awarded to Beta Xi, for the president's exhibit. Honorable mention went to Psi for the vice-president's display and to Alpha Eta for the social chairman's exhibit.

As Governor of the Colony of Zetas, Louise Wright, president of the hostess province, made the general arrangements.



When the January, 1938, *Themis* gave a year-ahead-of-time reminder that "undergraduate chapters will have something entirely new and thrilling to look forward to in 1939," it referred to the award announced that night by Dorothy Swaney Hillix, its donor, at this closing banquet. Presented by the retiring Grand President, the beautiful sterling-silver bowl with a gadroon edge was the soon-to-be-sought-after Grand Chapter Award—so named by her specific request. It was hereafter to be awarded at conventions "to the chapter showing the greatest amount of progress in those things which make for 'real fraternity' in chapter and college life." Points to be considered in selecting the winning chapter were: "Scholarship, activities, fraternity and interfraternity relationships, the latter to include relations with national officers, with chapter alumnae, general chapter organization and satisfactory inter-fraternity relations."

Guests carried away silver leatherette book-mark favors.

Then convention was over. Some went on the Saguenay River post-convention trip, while July 1 was Boston Day for the eighty Zetas who toured the city, the Boston Alumnae acting as hostesses.

Taking a night boat, "some seventy-odd girls and two hundred pieces of luggage" arrived in New York City the next morning for a two-day whirl and house party planned by the New York Alumnae. Beekman Tower Hotel (formerly Panhellenic House)<sup>55</sup> was their headquarters.

After that there was no more, and the Zetas who had been together "at the Red Rock" went their separate ways.

### Grand Chapter Meeting

(New York City, 1937)

At the Grand Chapter meeting held October 16-21, 1937, at Beekman Tower Hotel (immediately following the National Panhellenic Congress), in New York City, "plans were mapped out to carry forward the fraternity's program, and to establish closer coordination of all phases of work and activity."

Present were Louise Kettler (Helper), Grand President; Lucile Reece (Roberts), Second Vice-President; May Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer, and Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Editor-Historian. Pressing local obligations kept the First Vice-President, Elizabeth Steinhauer (Ott), from attending, but the Secretary-Treasurer was to stop in Cleveland en route to Chicago "to discuss with her matters taken up at the meeting."

When, just a few months before N.P.C., Dorothy Hillix turned the reins over to Louise Helper, an important NPC assignment still needed to be carried to completion by the delegate who had been working on it, so in October Mrs. Hillix went to New York, gave her report and then was present for the first afternoon's discussion of the Grand Chapter meeting. Marion Mayer (Bergin), the new Field Secretary, was also present during most of the two-and-a

half days, "discussion of active chapters," when "general plans for strengthening all of the chapters were worked out."

Deciding to "assign an alumnæ chapter to sponsor every active chapter in cases where there is no alumnæ chapter in the town with it," they worked out the assignments. The question of organizing scattered alumnæ, so that their interests and talents could be utilized for chapter benefit, received attention.

"Rushing, always a major topic, was given a great deal of consideration, and plans were drawn whereby a network of subchairmen (for each state) would function under the direction of the newly appointed National Rushing Chairman, Carol Bryant (Ustick), Alpha Eta." In explanation, *Themis* said, "The 1935 convention created the new office of Second Vice-President, with the assigned duty of having 'charge of the active chapters of the fraternity.' Since this included such a wide category of duties, the 1937 convention created the office of National Rushing Chairman, who will be in charge of the fraternity's rushing. She will work with the Second Vice-President on this important activity. At this meeting, Grand Chapter also decided upon a system of sub-chairmen, who will assist the National Rushing Chairman in checking on all rushing phases, including formal rushing, its preparation and technique; summer, pre-college and post-season rushing; the ascertaining of rushing weaknesses (if any) and their correction; arranging for the interchange of rush assistance between nearby chapters, and to make definite suggestions to each chapter's alumnæ to insure adequate cooperation and assistance—a complete check-up system covering all points necessary for the assurance of a successful rushing season. A plan was also worked out to encourage increased alumnæ backing of each chapter." The plan was intricate, ambitious and workable—the forerunner of the soon-to-be accepted system of rushing direction and techniques that were to blossom in the next decade—and become standard in the sixth. "Always of importance, the Field Secretary was to stress the necessity of securing recommendations on rushees."

In accordance with convention action which authorized the appointment of a separate publicity chairman for active and alumnæ chapters (in addition to the National Publicity Chairman), Grace Harper, Beta Epsilon, was appointed to the position. Appointed to another convention-created post, Hazel McKibben (Kuehn), Beta Zeta, the new National Director of Chaperones, would "hereafter have charge of the fraternity's chaperones."

After full discussion it was decided to notify the University of Nebraska "that we have suspended our chapter, with the intention of reinstating the chapter at some future time."

Desiring to foster and encourage the observance of chapter anniversaries which the National Historian had been promoting, "It was decided to stress the importance of observing such anniversaries, as well as the opportunities inherent at such a time." Undoubtedly, the latter meant publicity. The Grand Editor-

Historian would continue to notify chapters "sufficiently in advance of installation anniversary dates. . . ." Once accustomed to this, chapters later went ahead under their own steam, but at this time the custom seemed in need of stimulation.

Grand Chapter soon announced "a redistricting of the states in the southeastern part of the country, including changes in Alpha and Beta provinces and the creation of Iota province. The new classification included: *Alpha Province*: Delaware, District of Columbia, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina and Virginia. *Beta Province*: Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee. *Iota Province*: Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. Said *Themis*:

The former Iota province, containing the states of Montana, North and South Dakota and Wyoming, will now be known as Mu province.

Alpha, Beta and Iota provinces will be approximately the same size, and each will be sufficiently small so that it will be possible for every chapter to receive personal attention from the province president the year around. Also, the geographical compactness within each of the three provinces will make possible closer relationships between chapters and shorter distances to province conventions.

"Where vacancies in office were caused by the change," officers were appointed "to serve until the province convention," for province presidents were elected, not appointed, at this time.

The House Advisory Committee was asked to make a survey of housing conditions on every campus where Zeta Tau Alpha had a chapter, "and closer touch will be kept with each situation." It was also decided to require chapters (in a position to do so) to build up a surplus fund to meet any emergency situation that might arise.

Hopefully, a Zeta European tour in 1938 was on the agenda. Directors were selected and *Themis* carried stories until it was evident that the spreading war in Europe had written finis to any such normal plans or hopes.

Central Office was to send out monthly bulletins of new pledges, initiates, et cetera, to Grand Chapter, the Field Secretary, province presidents and the National Rushing Chairman. The form which the Second Vice-President was to prepare as a guide for chapter reports was to be sent to the province presidents before next convention.

After considering mounting cases and a developing trend, the officers put their heads together and went "on record as [being] opposed to a policy of permitting chapters to make requests of our prominent personalities." There had been evidences of swamping the "famous personages."

A reprint of 2,000 copies of the *Pledge Manual* was authorized, while service books were "to be disposed of at cost." Grand Chapter's Christmas cards were to be selected by artistic Louise Helper and sent to the Founders, province presidents, committees and chapters.

There was less discussion of extension than usual, but it was included.

The old gave way to the new with the modernization of the official letter-



heads. At the same time "a policy of using only main headings on the province presidents' letterheads" was established.

Going over "material submitted by the new National Director of Chaperones" they decided to "have reports sent only to the National Director of Chaperones, since the Second Vice-President and province president are not qualified to do anything with the reports." Each chapter was to have Emily Post's book on *Etiquette* and chaperones were to "stress the cultural side" of chapter life, with "after-dinner coffee, especially nice service on certain occasions," and so on.

Recognizing her importance in setting the tone in the house and her relationship to Zeta, the "housemother [was to] read *Themis* and *Banta's Greek Exchange* so she can talk intelligently on Zeta and other fraternities." Something "about house loyalty was to be included, with a reminder that there should be no discussion of Zeta affairs with outsiders, and that she should be responsible for instilling loyalty in the servants."

In line with a recommendation from the province presidents' school, Grand Chapter officers and other officers concerned were to receive inspection reports "written one month after the inspection."

In an attempt to eliminate some of the time-consuming and mounting detail in Central Office, blanket receipts, rather than individual receipts for dues and fees were to be issued hereafter. Personally signing all of these, the Secretary-Treasurer reported that it took many hours yearly just to put her signature on them.

Looking ahead two years, July 9-13 were set as tentative dates for the 1939 convention.

The New York Alumnae's delightful Sunday afternoon tea was the one social event.

### Grand Chapter Meeting (Asheville, North Carolina, 1938)

That quietude and beauty of setting had no activity-diminishing or diversionary effect on intent fraternity officers was strikingly illustrated at the last Grand Chapter meeting of the fourth decade. For the June 15-22, 1938, eight-day meeting held in the quiet setting of the Asheville Country Club\* produced a tome of minutes totalling twenty-three pages of single-spaced typing. Since the officers had the building almost to themselves most of the time, meetings were held in the President's room and on the sun porch—and the amount of work turned out approached staggering proportions.

\* The Country Club was located on the rolling grounds of the Grove Park Inn, for which the meeting was originally scheduled. When heavy prior bookings took all of the hotel accommodations, the manager suggested and arranged club accommodations for the Zeta officers' meeting. In taking the meeting South, the officers were anticipating a southern site for the 1941 convention. They were considering various possibilities.

Journeying to the Blue Ridge Mountains were Louise Kettler Helper, President; Elizabeth Steinhauer Ott, First Vice-President; Lucile Reece Roberts, Second Vice-President; May Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer; and Shirley Kreasan Krieg Strout, Editor-Historian. The Field Secretary, Marion Mayer Bergin, "was present for the first five days."

Consideration of the chapters invariably came first at such meetings. So, down the long list they went. The sentence, "there was a general discussion of the chapters by provinces, and plans were made for their supervision and assistance," covered detailed analyses of each chapter, with plans covering everything from coorganizer or rushing assistance, the need for a quota system, formation of an assisting alumnae chapter, housing and discipline, to an interesting list of top chapters "to be kept at the top." On the "potential tops" list was one that needed "careful watching" because "there is evidence of over-confidence." Another was advised that "we do not approve of breaking pledges at the end of the first semester."

The blueprints for Kappa chapter's white-columned new house were spread out and studied. Then suggestions were made.

The quota system, steadily gaining popularity in various parts of the country, was given assisting impetus when plans were made to compile available material, including the quota systems used at Illinois, Northwestern and Pittsburgh, to be available "to chapters upon request."

Several new badge policies concerned the disposition of a suspended member's pin not reinstated within ten years, and there was provision for allowing members "to turn in a pin in order to purchase another," such pins to be available for sale "to members who had lost theirs." Badge workmanship was discussed. The National Historian was to approve the detail and authenticity of the reproduced Founder's badge.

Recognizing the honor and special place reserved for the Founder's badge—and again apprehending a trend calling for supervision as well as clarification, Grand Chapter stated plainly that the Founder's badge† was to "be considered only as an honorary emblem—not to be ordered promiscuously by the members." Further, "all orders [were] to be passed on by the Secretary-Treasurer."

By the time page 8 of the minutes was reached, "the strong and weak points in our national organization were considered thoroughly and constructive plans were made," by the unquestionably thorough officers.

In a year's time "the experiment of having a National Rushing Chairman<sup>56</sup> not on Grand Chapter" met with serious questioning as to merit by both the executive officers and the new chairman herself, who had written "expressing her

† Inspired by the Founder's badge on display in the Historical Exhibit at the 1937 convention, one chapter conceived the idea of giving a replica of this badge to its most outstanding members. Control was necessitated when promiscuous ordering resulted. The practice was finally abandoned.

realization of this, and giving her views." Acquiescing with the chairman's opinions, the five agreed that such assigned rushing direction was "almost impossible for anyone not on Grand Chapter," since an intimate knowledge of each chapter and its requirements was necessary, and that could come only through Grand Chapter work, it was felt.

Out of that conclusion, and a growing conviction that the present division of duties between the Vice-Presidents was out of balance and inconsistent, came the near-revolutionary decision "to put the responsibility for rushing supervision back in Grand Chapter and redivide the duties of the two Vice-Presidents so that it will be possible to give adequate attention to every chapter and to correlate the activities of the *alumnæ* and college chapters." That meant a trial separation of the work of the Vice-Presidents.

They next "decided that during the coming year we will try out a plan whereby each of the two Vice-Presidents will supervise both *alumnæ* and college chapters, rather than having the First Vice-President in charge of *alumnæ* chapters exclusively, and the Second Vice-President in charge of college chapters." Under this adopted plan "Betty Ott will have Delta, Epsilon, Eta, Theta, Kappa and Lambda provinces under her care, and Lucile Roberts will have Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Zeta and Iota provinces." So it came about that in North Carolina the Vice-Presidents found themselves with new families, and the groundwork was laid for the permanent later assignment of college chapters to the two. But in 1938 it was a trial run.

That chapters be visited annually by the province president and that they also enjoy an annual visit from a national officer, with visits from grand officers alternating with those of the Field Secretary, was not considered too high a goal toward which to aspire. They "decided to work gradually toward [this] plan (insofar as finances will permit)." Envisioning it further, "the visits of the province presidents would be in the nature of routine matters, whereas the national officers would not give so much time to routine, but rather would help the chapters in more intangible ways" designed "to keep fraternity morale and pride at a high point." That was plain enough. To the province emissaries would fall the important mechanics of a chapter. To the national officers would fall the vital mission of inspiration, pride and morale building.

By this time thought seemed well-attuned to plans as yet uncharted, and one trial plan deserved another, so, for "this year," they decided "to try out having a traveling coorganizer, or more than one, possibly." Receiving "no remuneration, her traveling expenses would be paid and [she] would spend several weeks with various chapters building up the chapter organization." Thus coorganizers, appointed generously during the previous five years, were given an expanded status. And not to be overlooked was the equally unprecedented decision "to make April 15 the deadline for all chapter inspections."

Uniformity of "province setup" was another goal toward which they were



going to make "every effort. The various points involved in such a uniform system [were to] be taken up at the province presidents' school at convention, so that Grand Chapter can complete plans at the meeting following the school." So that the list could be printed in subsequent issues of *Themis*, each province president was "to notify the Grand Editor-Historian by November 15 of the date and place of her province convention." Province secretaries, responsible for "keeping the province Form E cards up to date," were to receive a mimeographed letter emphasizing that duty. Also, "when Central Office receives a request for a list of names and addresses in a city or state or chapter, it will be sent to the province secretary for attention." The Grand President was selected to "write a comprehensive letter to the province presidents covering their duties and procedures."

"Hereafter *alumnæ* advisers' reports" were due October 15, December 15, February 15 and April 15, "with a résumé on June 1." After the decision that each chapter was to make an annual report to the province president on May 15, with a copy to the proper Vice-President, and one copy kept on file, "an outline to be followed by the chapter in making the report" was drawn up and adopted. Headings included: chapter personnel, pledges, scholarships, social life, house, finances, campus activities, *alumnæ* relations, interfraternity relations, college administration relations. The chapter president and *alumnæ* adviser were to sign the report.

Standards and standards blanks found their way into Grand Chapter minutes for the first time. The subject was not new though, for at this meeting "the standards blank was revised," and "the form as finally revised" was included in the minutes. It covered three pages and included such topics as: personnel, rushing, comparison with other chapters on campus, national requirements, fraternity examination, finances (chapter's operations and members' record), scholarship, chapter representation, honors—chapter and individual. "Rather than numbers, plus and minus" were to be used in grading. Significant and indicative of the *raison d'être* of the comparatively new form was the opening paragraph telling chapters that "the Zeta Tau Alpha standards will have a definite bearing on the selection of the winner of the Grand Chapter Award." Filling out the form, the province president was to send it to the proper Vice-President. Instructions said, "In grading each chapter, use as a basis of information the rushing reports, the chapter's yearly reports, the May *Link* and the inspection reports. Grade each point plus or minus rather than with a numerical grade."

In the realm of reports: "The province presidents [were to] fill out blanks for their chapters, using as a basis the chapter reports due them on May 15." They were then to be forwarded to the proper Vice-President, "depending on location." Due annually on June 15, they would "constitute the second report of the province presidents, for the year." The first report, due January 15, was to "be an essay type of report, as in the past."

Then, "at the Grand Chapter meeting preceding convention," the officers moved that "they would consider the standards submitted by the province presidents and also the intangible accomplishments of the chapters as shown in the alumnæ advisers' reports for the two-year period. Grand Chapter will then decide on the winner of the Grand Chapter Award." Dorothy Hillix, past President and donor of the award, was asked "to select the Grand Chapter Award" after the five had discussed shapes, styles and designs in detail, with resulting suggestions. Thus was set up the specific basis and groundwork for the initial presentation of the new award to take place a year hence at convention, and standards became an integral part of chapter administration.

Solving that particular question, the national convention report of the province president was to "use as a basis the chapter's yearly reports for the two-year period and the standards for both years." The chapter's report to the province president was to "comprise [its] report to convention." That decision was the forerunner of a permanent policy.

Fraternity examinations were given a thorough going-over, and they did not pass the test. "The inadequacies of our fraternity examination plan were considered," they recorded, "and it was decided to dispense with the examination as we have always known it and instead require each inspecting officer to give a written examination at the time of inspection, to cover all material studied up to that time in accordance with the national plan." Papers from the examination "given at the meeting at the opening of inspections . . . were to be graded by the alumnæ adviser during inspection, and handed to the inspecting officer before the final meeting, the chapter's average to be given in the inspection report."

Supplementing the new plan, "a study outline was to be sent in September," announcing that "examinations will be given by an officer whenever she visits a chapter." Monthly, *The Link* was to carry a study sheet for that month, "the questions to go out with each *Link* to the national officers and province presidents." Then the five officers shouldered additional work when they decided that "each month's study material and examination questions shall be prepared by a different officer, and each took her definite study-preparation assignment." Chapters were to be informed "that when an examination is taken early one year, and if there is a visit very early the following year, an examination will be given on all material not covered by the early examination of the previous year." The plan was ambitious, ultra-thorough, if not exacting. Both the chapters and Grand Chapter survived, but the plan did not.

The result of the 1937 experiment in creating a separate office of chapter publicity chairman "was considered as parallel with that" of attempting to have a non-Grand Chapter rushing director—"neither plan seems workable," and for the same reasons. Since it was "obvious that the present setup was not satisfactory, the Grand Editor-Historian (the National Director of Publicity) was to

carry on all publicity supervision until next convention," when she was to "present . . . a substitute plan for the direction of all fraternity publicity."

A number of decisions and recommendations were made regarding Health Center and the National Philanthropic Committee. The scholarship committee was to be requested to do individual work with each chapter on scholarship, and to "work out a study plan this summer to go out with the October *Link*."

A clarifying letter from the Grand President on procedure was to inform "the Constitution Committee that any constitutional changes to be considered at next convention must be sent out exactly worded in advance. . . . The procedure for interpretation between conventions—i.e., that the Secretary-Treasurer write the chairman, with copies to the members, this to be followed by inter-committee correspondence with copies to the ex-officio members of the committee—then a decision be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer by the chairman." And "carbons of letters written by any committee members must go to all other committee members, including the ex-officio member."

Filling a vacancy on that committee, "it was decided that hereafter Central Office [would] give the House Advisory Committee a semi-annual report on chapter house finances, so that the committee will not have to write the chapters for this information." Then, "in reporting to Grand Chapter, the committee was to show the financial position of the houses we have," stating "when re-financing is due in each case, giving information about houses which are needed, building which is going on, et cetera, et cetera." Reports on the committee's work were due January 1 and June 15.

"Carefully considered" was the material for the projected housemother's handbook, submitted by the new National Director of Chaperones. Detailing six changes in the House Standards, they also made five changes "in the obligations of chaperones." No sample rules, taken from the individual chapters' house rules, were to be included in the handbook which was to be "the property of Zeta Tau Alpha" and left with the alumnae adviser when a chaperone left. Louise Helper was to write the foreword of the loose-leaf-form compilation to be mimeographed that summer in Central Office.

The National Director of Chaperones, who was to receive "all applications for housemother positions, was to carry on correspondence with the applicants and their references, arranging for an interview with the nearest national or province officer or alumnae adviser." And "no chapter may hire a housemother without the National Director's approval." An alumnae adviser was to indicate, in her reports to the Vice-President and province president, "whether she thinks the housemother should return." The province president was to report "adverse information to the National Director and the officer who is to inspect the chapter, and carry on the necessary correspondence to investigate and correct it. When . . . anything questionable in the housemother's reports" reached the National Director, she was to "take this up with the province president," who was



a clearing-house of information coming from the National Director, the alumnæ adviser, the inspecting officer and the chapter." Hers was the "duty of working out all problems with diplomacy and firmness. The National Director," however, "will write to no one but the province president regarding these problems," and "housemother report dates were the fifteenth of October, December, February, April and June 1, instead of monthly."

Since reestablishment of the quiescent Alpha Sigma was still impossible in 1938, "it was decided to omit Alpha Sigma from future *Themis* directory lists and to announce the withdrawal at the next N.P.C."

Looking ahead to the permanent establishment of a fund commemorating the golden anniversary that was but ten years away, the five officers then led Zeta Tau Alpha in the direction taken by many Greek contemporaries who had established permanent commemorative anniversary funds named after the fiftieth mark. The particular dream of one historically minded officer, Grand Chapter enthusiastically adopted the idea with the distinct feeling that they were building for the future. Specifically they "decided that on this, our fortieth anniversary, we [would] start a Fiftieth Anniversary Fund\* to be built up by contributions, gifts, various commissions not allotted elsewhere, et cetera—a fund for promoting the general welfare of the fraternity, this fund to be comparable to the anniversary funds of other fraternities."

Its uses were to be wide, varied and flexible. Actually a contingent fund, it was to be highly flexible, for use in the broadest interpretative sense in promoting the fraternity's welfare. Whereas other funds were constitutionally confined or limited to certain and specifically defined purposes, this new fund with its anniversary name, was not to be so restricted. A permanent fund, destined permanently to commemorate and perpetuate the memory of the half-century milestone, it was to be used in whatever way it was needed in promoting the welfare and advancement of the fraternity. Wherever it was needed, there it could be used. Promptly, travel and magazine agency commissions were assigned to "this fund after the expense of running blanks in *Themis* is deducted."

Turning to the immediate year, the next plan happily evolved was "to have a birthday party at the Founders' Day celebration" this fortieth anniversary year, "and for each successive year until our fiftieth anniversary." The fore-runner of the later-day established custom of birthday pennies was foreshadowed in the additional happy thought that "each person [was to be] asked to bring as many pennies as she is old." They envisioned a chain of memorable parties across the continent. Appropriately, those contributions were "to be placed in the Fiftieth Anniversary Fund."

Thus, a new Fund and a tradition-to-be were born at this meeting.

The 1936 Grand Chapter meeting voted to secure explicit information concerning the magazine agencies of other fraternities. Much had been learned

\* Later renamed the Golden Anniversary Fund.

by 1937, and in 1938 "the Zeta Tau Alpha magazine agency was next discussed and a program decided upon." Helen Bowers (Baird), Alpha Zeta, had been previously appointed chairman. Details were worked out. The province selling the most subscriptions was to be given a prize at convention, "possibly \$10." Proceeds were to go to the Fiftieth Anniversary Fund.

Receipts from the travel project presented by Fraternity Magazines Associated, providing "for commissions on all foreign and air travel," were also to go to the Fiftieth Anniversary Fund. While it was decided to go into this project, Germany's invasion of Poland that fall (following their taking over of Austria earlier in the year) stopped the development of the plan.

But there had been no happiness about a monthly "black list" appearing in *The Link*. Chapters who were delinquent in their national obligations (reports, forms, et cetera) found themselves listed among those present, and their anguish was heard all the way to North Carolina. A different method of correcting delinquencies seemed definitely in order so, "since a monthly *Link* black list seems detrimental to fraternity morale, it was to be discontinued." However, "if any officer wishes to send out a communication including a list of delinquencies, this may be sent with *The Link*." Also, "as an economy measure and since the present listing of alumnæ dues in *The Link* seems unfair to alumnæ chapters where there are only a few Zetas in the community, it was decided to omit from future *Links* the list of alumnæ dues paid each month."

Listed separately for some thirty-seven years, in future issues of *Themis* alumnæ chapters were to be "included in the provinces, [along] with the college chapters."

Started at New York, there was continuing discussion about the official letter-heads, but this time actual orders for the officers were recorded, and "all orders were to go through Central Office."

When Louise Helper "reported on extension activities," fall colonization at the University of Mississippi was placed on the agenda. The "Pennsylvania State College" chapter was to "be installed next year as soon as the group is ready." Georgia was again discussed. "To investigate carefully" and "to investigate further," were phrases recurring in connection with possible expansion fields.

A tentative but detailed program for the Mackinac convention to be held on the now-definitely set dates of July 9-14, 1939, was worked out. Evidently hoping to alleviate a trend of too-constant demands on officers' time at convention, chapters were to receive "an announcement . . . that there will be no conferences with Grand Chapter at convention." Instead, "all conferences [were to] be held with the province presidents," who, in turn could "bring any important matters before Grand Chapter right after convention." To forestall presentation of the unexpected, "the chapters will be urged to write their province presidents and national officers frankly about their problems all year, so that they can be

given thorough and adequate attention, rather than saving them up until convention, where it is impossible to give adequate time to conferences."

The eventual outcome of that theoretically excellent, but virtually impossible-to-be-achieved plan, was the fact that two decades later, Councils were still heavily scheduled with night and day conferences at convention.

Payment of "half the expenses" of certain committee chairmen and "the convention marshal" to convention was to be recommended to the Finance Committee "if in our opinion the committee has made a vital contribution to the advancement of the fraternity this year and if the chairman can be expected to make a vital contribution to the convention."

A departure from custom was the appointment of a convention marshal whose "chief duty" was "the handling of registration, both by correspondence before convention, and at convention." The suggestion was to be made to "chapters that a delegate pay her own hotel bill since she is receiving her transportation expenses from the fraternity and that if possible, the chapter send an alternate, paying her hotel bill if she takes care of her transportation expenses." It was a thought.

Charged by the 1937 convention with working out a rotation that would permit a convention to fall in 1948, the golden anniversary year, the officers prepared a schedule calling for national conclaves in "1941, 1943, 1945, and 1948, with state days on the vacant year." This plan provided for a three-year period before the 1948 convention.

Scholarship plaques were to "be given to any chapter ranking first if the group did not receive a plaque the last time," but "if a chapter ranking first already has received a plaque, a plate will be given to be placed on the plaque."

Recommendations to be made "to N.P.C. before the next Congress" approved of N.P.C. reaffirming "its policy of limitation of chapter size, this size to be determined by each college Panhellenic." They also thought that before a "summary of the minutes was printed, copy must be submitted to each Panhellenic delegate for approval."

Although the days were passing and a mental lag might have been expected, there was no such thing. Instead, the meeting came up with a well-thought-out list of constitutional recommendations for the next convention. They thought that "a change should be made in the restriction regarding chapter house loans . . . and regarding honor initiates." Since the qualifications for the Finance Committee chairman so restricted appointment possibilities, they urged a change in them. The recommendation that province presidents be appointed rather than elected proved premature. They felt "that the honor ring points [should] be revised . . . the alumnae adviser's title changed to 'general chapter adviser,' and that province presidents' expenses to province conventions should be paid by the province treasury rather than the national treasury," while it was their opinion that "we [should] have a provision for impeaching inefficient



committee members and province presidents, as we do for national officers."

The President's unofficial visit to her province convention as mentioned in her 1937 convention report was brought to mind when it was "recommended to the Finance Committee that national officers be sent to province conventions." Feeling that the presence of a national officer was valuable and perhaps necessary, they "hoped that this may be possible if the provinces pay the expenses of the province presidents to province conventions."

The last business of the meeting was a study of the suggested budget, recommendations being made for a number of changes.

Contrary to the impression created by the heavy schedule and voluminous minutes, the work routine was relaxed several times. The officers toured the Biltmore estate, and were entertained at dinner at the Grove Park Inn. With Asheville's Rhododendron Festival in full swing when they arrived, they had the pleasure of attending the coronation ball. Visits with local Zetas, and a motor trip to Chimney Rock were worked into the filled-to-the-brim days.

### Supplementary Notes

1. Some meetings were held in conjunction with the still-new Finance Committee, which held its annual meeting at the same time. Ethel Cruse (Mouton), Kappa, chairman, and Leone Peel (Ramsey), Epsilon, were later joined by Lola Mayfield (Dickerson), Alpha Zeta, the third member of the committee selected at that time.

2. This became Beekman Tower Hotel in later years.

3. Seven chapters had been established since the last convention: Beta Nu, Beta Xi, Beta Omicron, Beta Pi, Beta Rho, Beta Sigma, Beta Tau.

4. The convention business manager announced that 200 registration fees were paid, but that there was an approximate total attendance of 300.

5. The province presidents were: Alpha—Ada Swigart (Hess), Beta Alpha; Beta—Ann Harbinson (Helmer), Omicron; Gamma—A. Louise Gale (Haines), Rho; Delta—Alice Porter (Moore), Zeta; Epsilon—Pauline Dillon (Cragg), Alpha Kappa; Zeta—Lucile Miles (Holt), Delta; Eta—Grace Thorne (Kerns), Sigma; Theta—Florence Leiser (Parker), Alpha Epsilon; Kappa—Dorothy Kvinlog (Hallberg); Lambda—Helen M. Harrison, Xi.

6. The sketch read on the air that night was written by Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout).

7. Other places extending invitations for the location of Central Office included St. Louis Missouri; Kansas City, Missouri; Indianapolis, Indiana; Washington, D.C.

8. Expense was to be considered in selecting the representatives.

9. "A duplicate of which was to be sent by the Grand President to the chapter."

10. This plan provided for the appointment of House Advisory committee members as follows: "In 1930, two members shall be appointed for two years, two members to serve four years, and one member to serve six years. Thereafter, each Grand Chapter shall appoint two members, one for four years, and one for six years, to replace retiring members. Retiring members may be appointed to succeed themselves. The chairman shall be chosen from the three members whose terms have not expired. During the time of construction and remodeling, whether or not the chapter has received financial aid from the House Loan Fund, monthly reports relative to the progress of construction and remodeling and the state of finance shall be rendered the committee. After completion of remodeling or construction, and until the house is completely paid for, semi-annual reports at dates set by the House Advisory Committee shall be rendered to the committee. All requests for loans which are to be made

out of funds other than the Themis Endowment Fund shall be promptly referred to the Finance Committee by the House Advisory Committee, with a report on the chapter requesting the loan, and a recommendation as to the advisability of making the loan. It shall be the duty of this committee to obtain and keep up to date information relative to house maintenance, and, upon request, to furnish this information to chapters or Grand Chapter." (Pages 140-141, 1930 minutes.)

11. Duties of the Philanthropic Endowment Trustees were defined as follows: (1) To administer the National Philanthropic Fund with the advice of Grand Chapter. (2) To solicit contributions to meet the special needs of the national philanthropic work as they may arise. (3) To report formally at national convention on the work of their committee, and to report informally to the fraternity at such times as Grand Chapter may advise or as may seem expedient to the committee.

12. It was decided that the Themis Endowment Fund be administered by the Themis Endowment Trustees, subject to the following regulations: One-third of the Themis Endowment Fund may be used for loans to college and alumnae chapters or associations for the purpose of building or buying houses to be used as chapter houses for the college chapters. The House Advisory Committee shall investigate the plans for the house, the conditions of the college chapter, alumnae chapter or association requesting the loan and shall make recommendations to the Themis Endowment Trustees as to whether or not they deem it advisable to make the loan. They may also recommend the amount and terms of the loan. The Themis Endowment Trustees shall then decide whether or not to grant the loan, and shall determine the amount and the term of the loan, and the security required. The rate of interest shall be six per cent, while the type of security required shall be notes signed by the officers of the corporation acting for the corporation or by two or more responsible persons. All requests for loans shall reach the Trustees not later than March 31 or October 31 of each year. Money not required for chapter house loans may be invested in United States government bonds or deposited in reliable savings banks until such time as it is required for chapter house loans. The interest so obtained, and the interest obtained from chapter house loans, as well as any increase in principal as may be realized from the advantageous sale of the aforesaid bonds, shall be credited to the Themis Current Fund.

The remaining two-thirds of the Themis Endowment Fund shall be administered as follows: The Trustees shall authorize a Trust Company to act as agent for the remaining two-thirds of the Endowment Fund. This service shall include: Recommendations as to suitable securities to be purchased, recommendations as to the appropriate time for the sale of securities already purchased, actual purchasing of securities selected by the Trustees, the holding of said securities for safe keeping, the collection of interest when due, or of principal when it becomes due, or is called, the depositing of all amounts collected to the credit of the fund and prompt notification in regard to transactions.

Theoretically, this seemed sound, but in the next three years practical experience and the times were to change opinions so drastically that this proved to be a swan song.

13. At this time it was reported that the new Zeta Tau Alpha section, written by the the Grand Editor-Historian, which appeared in the twelfth (1930) edition of *Baird's Manual*, was "by far the most extensive representation we have ever had in *Baird's Manual*."

14. Individualistic garb set members of *The Chain* staff apart in all their journalistic glory. The energetic little newsboys appeared in wide blue trousers and trim little coats with glittering buttons, while members of the reportorial and business staffs wore turquoise blue smocks and smart little gray berets. The smocks were fastened with shiny silver buttons, with tiny silver chains on the collars—with crowns added for the editor and business manager. The personnel of this staff included: Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), editor-in-chief; Marian Jennings (Kay), Sigma; Lucile Shoulty (Tomey), Helen Crawford (Raven), Alpha



Xi; Dorothy Claus (Wallace), Alpha Tau; Virginia Smith (Sprague), Alpha Phi; Sarah Fisher (Taylor), Beta Lambda; Beryl Williamson (Bergman), Beta Rho, reportorial staff. Members of the business staff, under the direction of Jeanette Bertram (Chapman); were: Trean Benfer (Matz) and Margaret Wilt (Stiles), Alpha Beta; Flora Steen (Hamiel), Alpha Xi; Harriett Schnicke (West), Alpha Eta; Sparkle Guthrie (Crowe) and Hollis Hughes, Beta Theta. News-boys were Helen Eldred, Rho; Ruth Abbill, Edith Alexander, Mildred Fink (Steves), Catherine Grimm (Goldmeyer), Christine Schorr (Hoffman), Dorothy Steves (Selz), Alpha Eta.

15. Delta's average was 87.22 per cent, her nearest rivals being Beta Zeta, with an average of 86.35 and Beta Nu with 86.19. Honorable mention went to Beta Omicron, Beta Sigma, Beta Theta and Beta Nu—all of whom, except Beta Theta, had ranked first on their respective campuses ever since becoming Zeta chapters.

16. In charge of Mildred Spragg (Boyd).

17. To raise scholastic standards it was decided to make the official delegate from the chapter winning the scholarship cup for the year 1928-1929 the model initiate at this convention. Heretofore, according to tradition and constitutional prerogative, someone outside of the fraternity, selected by reason of meritorious service to Zeta Tau Alpha, had been chosen for this honor.

18. Friday's Sweetheart Luncheon was in charge of May Youngberg, Alpha Phi. Saturday's Scholarship Luncheon was in charge of Maude Rousseau, Beta Eta, National Scholarship Chairman. Ada Swigart (Hess) and the chapters in her province were Sunday's tea hostesses. Province dinners were under the leadership of the province presidents, Margaret Kingsley (Cooper), Alpha Kappa, was chairman of the dinner arrangements.

19. Stunt Night and the Bathing Beauty Revue were under the direction of Evelyn Jones, Alpha Phi, chairman of Stunt Night.

20. Nora Thompson, Alpha Beta, and Mabel Slout (Weeter), Beta Lambda, were other program speakers.

21. The "West Baden Treaty of 1930" on the opening page of the official-looking banquet program, with affixed plain silver seal and turquoise ribbon, read as follows:

The President of Zeta Tau Alpha and her official staff of Grand Chapter officers, together with the various Presidents of the Provinces,

Desiring to safeguard against the dangers and reduce the weaknesses inherent in growing fraternities, and

Desiring to carry forward the work so ably begun by the Virginia Founders in 1898 and to facilitate the progress so earnestly desired,

Have resolved to conclude a pact whereby certain weaknesses which might sap the vitality of the fraternity will be forever cast aside; and have accordingly appointed as their Plenipotentiaries:

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| Bertha Cruse Gardner, President .....        | Zeta Tau Alpha         |
| Ada Swigard Hess, President .....            | Alpha Province         |
| Ann Harbinson Helmer, President .....        | Beta Province          |
| Elma T. Haynes, President .....              | Gamma Province         |
| Mary Eugenia Hubbard, President .....        | Louisville Alumnæ      |
| Shirley Kreasan Krieg, Grand Historian ..... | Editor, Zeta Tau Alpha |
| Grace Thorne Kerns, President .....          | Eta Province           |
| Florence Leiser Parker, President .....      | Theta Province         |
| Dorothy Kvinlog Hallberg, President .....    | Kappa Province         |
| Helen Harrison, President .....              | Lambda Province        |
| Lucile Miles Holt, President .....           | Zeta Province          |
| and Chairman of Conference.                  |                        |

There followed the "Discussions (Toast Program) of the Conference."



22. In planning this conference-banquet, Mrs. Holt had the assistance and cooperation of Senator Joseph T. Robinson of Arkansas, one of the United States representatives to the London Conference, and no pains were spared to make every detail correct. The entire expense of the banquet, exclusive of the food, was generously met by Zeta province.

23. A publication appearing at this convention was the new Health Center brochure, compiled and edited by Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout).

24. Presentation to the fraternity of certain resolutions anent the problem-situation responsible for the called-meeting was the final alternative adopted.

25. Reactivated in later years, Alpha Theta, Alpha Psi and Alpha Omega became inactive for a time soon after this. The other chapters were Rho, Alpha Epsilon and Alpha Sigma, all of whom are mentioned in succeeding Grand Chapter minutes of this decade.

26. Zeta's first rushing compilation written in 1932 by the Grand Editor-Historian, was mimeographed.

27. "This past fall," the chairman wrote in *Themis*, "Grand Chapter accepted an offer from this firm to give a test-trial in eight of our active chapters. . . ."

28. Announced Kappa Kappa Gamma: "Due to the sudden and widespread bank moratorium, as well as the strict limitations set up by a large portion of the states, it seems only wise for the chapters and national organization to hold all available funds for the purpose of meeting actual maintenance expenses." Some of the groups announcing national convention postponements that year were Pi Beta Phi, Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Gamma Delta, Gamma Phi Beta, Alpha Delta Pi. In 1932, Sigma Kappa, Delta Zeta, Alpha Tau Omega, Tau Kappa Epsilon and others announced postponements.

29. In addition to the reports of the grand officers, the following province presidents read reports: Ada Swigart (Hess), Alpha; Dorothy Straub, Gamma; Alice Porter (Moore), Delta; Pauline Dillon (Gragg), Epsilon; Lucile Miles (Holt), Zeta; Dorothy Swaney (Hillix), Eta; Louise Kettler (Helper), Theta; Dorothy Kvinlog (Hallberg), Kappa; Helen M. Harrison, Lambda. The President later announced the appointment of Virginia Sellers (Webb), as Beta province president *pro tem*, in the absence of Ann Harbinson (Helmer).

30. College round table subjects and speakers were: Pledge Training—Lucy Shane, Alpha Chi; Chapter Organization—Veva Light (Ramskill), Alpha Mu; Spirit—Mary Lee Watkins (Schumaker), Beta Alpha; Finances—Jean McKinney (Dalstrom), Zeta; Campus Activities—Marie Melcher (Sterling), Chi; Chapter Social Standards—Esther Mae Wagenfeuhr (Burt), Kappa; Alumnae Advisers—Mary Lee Kirten (Proff), Psi; Scholarship—Zelfa Dishman (Atkinson), Beta Nu; Extension—Florence MacLeod (Strickler), Beta Rho; Publicity—Geraldine Diamond (Hobbs), Beta Epsilon.

31. The alumnae round table program included: How to Increase Alumnae Chapter Memberships—Dorothy Metz (Vandervort), Evanston Alumnae; Beatrice Clephane, Washington Alumnae; National Obligations—Maude Elrod, Lincoln Alumnae; Ways and Means of Raising Money for the Philanthropic Quota—Emily Grimes (Koppitz), Detroit Alumnae. Other speakers were Nellie Mae Hadfield (Jorgenson), Portland Alumnae, on "Alumnae Chapter Programs and News letters," and Helen Kagay (Prophet), Lansing Alumnae, on "Contacts with Active Chapters."

32. Working with the editor, Shirley K. Krieg (Strout), were (reporters): Margaret Terhune (Thompson), Sigma; Janet Sillers (Fry), Upsilon; Lysbeth Aberle (Lindig), Nu. Business staff: (business assistant), Mildred Davis (Wayland), Sigma, and her assistant, Mary Turner Wardrip (Williams), Sigma; Dorothy Straub, Alpha Gamma; Katherine Heinig, Alpha Phi; Mildred Willets (Clayton), Sigma; Thelma Hemker, Mu; Yvonne Bailey (Thompson), Sigma. Complications resulting from the new NRA laws of the government had the business staff delivering papers to hotel rooms at three o'clock in the morning.

33. Californians who arranged the dinner were: Helen Harrison, Geraldine Diamond (Hobbs), Edna Jones, Daria Charles and Janet Sillers (Fry).

34. Mrs. Gardner did not stand for reelection but announced her retirement before convention.

35. Talented Eta province entertained. Mary Bailey (Horn), popular radio singer, sang two songs, accompanied by Alma Jaggard (Yardley). Lucile Jones (Strauss), Mu, gave a reading, while Alma Jaggard played two piano selections. Bernice Raber (Welch), Psi, dedicated the first of her two songs to the new Grand Chapter.

36. Lois Powell, Alpha Tau, became Theta province's first president, with Helen Reich, Alpha Alpha-Alfa Omicron, as secretary.

37. Alpha Epsilon was moved from the former Theta province to Eta province. Beta Nu shifted from Theta to Lambda province, while Theta chapter moved from Delta to Gamma province. El Paso was transferred from Zeta to Lambda province, while Alpha Chi and Beta Lambda moved from Delta to Beta province.

38. Since Grand Chapter's meeting fell on the last days of Kappa Delta's convention, "the Zeta grand officers were charmingly entertained by the Kappa Delta Council." Said *Themis*, "It took almost forty years for this to happen, but finally it did. Not since the founding of Kappa Delta and Zeta Tau Alpha at the same college nearly forty years ago have these two organizations found themselves holding their conventions at the same place, on adjoining dates. The Zeta officers sent flowers to Kappa Delta during their convention, and on the first day of Zeta's convention, a big basket of flowers arrived from the Kappa Deltas." The editor of *The Chain* received a complete file of the Kappa Delta *Katydid*, and copies of *The Chain* were sent to Kappa Delta's *Katydid* editor.

39. The master film, presented to the fraternity, became an interesting record of the 1935 convention. Facing the inevitable, the Editor wrote, "Think how funny the styles will look ten years hence." The color movies taken of the entire convention marked "the first time that color pictures had been taken on that particular size of camera."

40. Interesting in this connection was the President's report saying that she "attended Eta province's convention unofficially, accepting the recommendation of the Finance Committee that Grand Chapter members not be sent to province conventions at the expense of the fraternity during this administration."

41. Province presidents at convention were: Alpha: Marjorie Glasson (Ross); Beta, Alice Porter (Moore); Gamma, Louise Wright; Delta, Willabelle Harper (Hoyt); Epsilon, Pauline Dillon (Gragg); Zeta, Ethel Cruse (Mouton); Eta, Mildred Davis (Wayland); Theta, Lois Powell; Kappa, Grace Norvell (Williams); Lambda, Helen M. Harrison.

42. When this was announced *Themis* commented that "it is interesting to note that all but about 2,000 of Zeta's entire membership are life subscribers to *Themis*—an extremely interesting percentage when one considers that the membership is mounting to 11,000." Also studying the adequacy of the *Themis* life subscription rate adopted in 1923 (when the mailing list was 1,800), the Editor presented actuarial figures compiled by an expert connected with the Equitable Life Assurance Company, which revealed the minimum amount at which a *Themis* life subscription should be offered, in proportion to the life expectancy of the members. That minimum was more than twice the amount then charged.

43. Assisting *The Chain's* editor-in-chief, Shirley Kresan Krieg (Strout) were: Honor Gregory (House), Alpha Delta; Dorothy Dell Doak (Kelly), Xi; Jane Grey (Ohrt), Beta Iota; Pauline Johnson (Solomon), Alpha Zeta; Zelda Rebelsky (Anderson), Alpha Omicron; Elizabeth Frisinger (Helser), Beta Theta; Helen Holt (Smith), Alpha Tau; Grace E. Harper, Beta Epsilon, business manager and associate editor. On the business staff were: Marion Uphoff (Sevier), Beta Epsilon; Gladys Downs (Limbird), Sigma; Irene Caldwell (Quist), Beta Epsilon, Barbara Brower (Brown), Beta Epsilon.

44. Shirley Hannah, Beta Epsilon, "dressed up in all the tourist pamphlets advertising California that she could find," won the "unique costume prize." Bertha Gardner, past Grand President, dressed as a colonial lady, won the prize for the most beautiful costume. One of



the several sets of Dionne Quints, plus Ma and Pa, won the group prize. Costumed with borrowed bath towels, they were from Kappa and Omega chapters.

45. Among the gifts of appreciation presented to Mrs. Hillix was an oil painting by Frank Moore, "Eucalyptus Near Sunset," given to her by Eta province; a fitted evening bag presented by her own chapter, Theta; a brilliant flower clip, the gift of Gamma province; and crested bookends presented by the Kansas City Alumnæ.

46. Beatrice Raber (Welch), Lois Parnell and Mary Wayland (Ray) were in the trio. In the convention choir were: Beatrice Raber (Welch), Mary Wayland (Ray), Orville Shoemaker, Zelda Rebelsky (Anderson), Gladys Downs, Marjorie Earl, Maxine Randolph, Ruth Hutchinson, Norma Schlagenhauf, Helen Bramsch, with Gladys Hansen as the accompanist.

47. These were Alpha Iota and Alpha Gamma.

48. Arriving at a strategic time, the Grand Editor-Historian made the visit during a February fraternity trip that included Delta, Omicron, Alpha Nu and Phi chapters. Probably at its peak when this officer arrived, the current anti-fraternity movement at the college lost much of its momentum and waned soon after.

49. In the language of the Natick tribe, Swampscott means "At the Red Rock."

50. A volume of business was covered at this strenuous pre-convention Grand Chapter meeting. Among the points not later referred to convention for action were:

When the matter "of our two suspended chapters, Alpha Sigma and Alpha Psi" was discussed they decided to notify the alumnæ "that since fraternity conditions are on the up-grade, there is reason to hope that it will be possible eventually to reestablish the chapters."

Sigma Phi, at the University of Miami, and Gamma Sigma, at Washington College, were granted formal inspections.

The officers also recommended "to the incoming Grand Chapter that plans for a national rushing program be continued and that a clever rushing pamphlet be prepared each year." The "proposed etiquette compilation," though, was to "be held in abeyance" until a new book on campus etiquette could be investigated, with plans to include material on both rushing and etiquette "in the same booklet." A "fraternity examiner"—a new term—was also appointed. Alumnæ dues notices were to be sent only to non-*Themis* subscribers, the First Vice-President to write the letter. Then a "notification of alumnæ dues was to be printed in the November issue of *Themis*, the color page to be financed from alumnæ dues income."

51. "The exhibit was collected, catalogued and arranged by Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), Grand Editor-Historian, and it represented months of painstaking work," as well as the years that went into the actual collection of the mementoes. "It represented not only further research into the collection of Zeta memorabilia, but also a study of museum mountings and methods. When completed, the exhibit gave a complete picture and record of the early Zeta Tau Alpha and early Zetas, which has a high value from a historical sense, and also from the standpoint of sentiment," said a reviewer in *Themis*.

52. Said *Themis*: "Publicity was in charge of the National Publicity Chairman, who, soon after her arrival at Swampscott, found herself filling requests for additional stories. . . . The requested story on *The Chain* was printed in both *The Transcript* and *The Globe*." . . .

53. Reflecting on the disappointing weather, a postscript to the official convention story commented wryly that "it didn't rain quite *all* of convention."

54. The planning committee consisted of Helen Prophet and Marjorie Glasson (Ross), the latter having charge of staging the skits.

55. A \$20 charge covered all expenses. Lucile Roberts was general chairman.

56. Despite the 1938 evaluation, by 1939 the post became more active.



## Decade Development

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### *Organization and Government*

FOR FOUR YEARS the biennial convention schedule established in 1926 was maintained. But in 1931, depression conditions that were, by then, world-wide, made postponement consideration mandatory. That fall the advisability of a year's postponement was recommended to Grand Chapter by the Finance Committee . . . A 1933 account explained that this was necessary:

Not only because of the decrease in income due to decreased enrollments which had inevitably resulted in smaller chapters and decreased initiations but because . . . the last two conventions had left deficits which had been covered by loans from other funds. Thus, at an inauspicious time, in the midst of the early depression days of 1930, Zeta Tau Alpha's Convention Fund faced the necessity of rebuilding itself entirely. Further . . . a far western location—California—was the site for the next conclave—and since the fraternity had not met in that state since 1915, it was hoped that not even the distance involved would interfere with the carrying out of plans for a California convention.

The constitutional requirement of an official and an alternate delegate from each chapter was under advisement. So was the general economic condition throughout the country, for, of course that affected fraternity chapters through college enrollments and the financial problems existing in individual families.

With the desire to conserve and add to fraternity funds, particularly the Convention Fund, and to give the chapters an additional year in which to build up their resources, the Finance Committee not only recommended postponement, but outlined a series of economy measures in keeping with the times. . . .

Grand Chapter unanimously accepted the recommendation and "under authority of the constitution, took the necessary action." It "also adopted the economy recommendations, which included regulated economies in all departments of Grand Chapter and retired the National Inspector from active travel for one year."

Zeta's foresighted action "was hailed with interest and commendation in the fraternity world. Almost immediately other organizations followed suit until by the spring of 1931, postponements were as numerous as were announced intentions to hold meetings as planned. The years 1932 and 1933 saw many other postponements among both the men's and women's fraternities for, with economic conditions growing worse and reaching a climax in the nation-wide bank moratorium of March, 1933, fraternity leaders took steps to conserve national funds, relieve the burden placed on college chapters and, in short, to

conduct their affairs in a manner consistent with the best interests of the groups, and the economic demands of the times, in social and financial retrenchments."

But final arrangements for the postponed California conclave were scarcely finished in February, 1933, before "the March bank moratorium necessitated another reconsideration of plans, both from the standpoint of national funds, and consideration for the chapters." Many banks closed by government edict never opened again. The personal funds of scores were frozen or wiped out. So, after considerable—and lively—discussion pro and con, "referenda of the chapters, and a widely expressed desire for a centrally located, strictly business convention" minus "all social functions, Grand chapter voted to hold a three-day business convention. This was the first time in Zeta annals that this type of convention had been held, and it constituted a departure from tradition" more than did the postponement itself.

"Thus, the years 1931-1933 were exceedingly important in the history of Zeta conventions, in the establishment of precedents and in departure from the traditional type of meeting.\* The 1931 postponement action was, of course, no new step, either in Zeta Tau Alpha or the fraternity world, but in that period of economic depression, Zeta Tau Alpha took the leadership in such action..."

The constitutional requirement of having an alternate delegate was waived<sup>1</sup> "Each chapter was represented by an official delegate, but alternates were not compulsory."

Necessary for successful convention financing, the registration fee stipulated by the 1928 convention "was tried at both the 1930 and 1933 meetings 'to cover expenses† not met by the regular convention fund.'" It first appeared in Zeta convention-financing during 1930-1933, becoming a permanent part thereafter. Flexible, the fee fluctuated many times in later years to meet current demands.

In 1935 the California goal was finally reached, and the Pasadena convention reestablished the biennial cycle. The 1937 Atlantic Coast conclave was also on schedule but, held in Zeta's thirty-ninth year, the fraternity discovered that "this span of convention years was causing it to forfeit the celebration of the fortieth anniversary in 1938, which would have been possible had the rotation of years been different." Empowered by that convention to work out a schedule that would provide for a conclave in 1948, the golden anniversary year, the 1938 Grand Chapter meeting selected 1941, 1943, 1945 and 1948 as the convention years.

At Swampscott, convention's voting personnel was specified anew when "the right of vote" was "accorded every Grand Chapter member, the Field Secretary, each province president, one official delegate from each college

\* Zeta Tau Alpha was the only fraternity that held a business convention.

† "The Chain, the banquet and other social functions."

and alumnæ chapter or the alternate in the absence of the official delegate."

Taking cognizance of the volume of time-consuming constitutional amendments proposed at each convention, the 1930 meeting instituted an important remedial step when it provided that "a committee composed of Grand Chapter, the province presidents and Constitution Committee" meet before that committee's report to convention, to "select the amendments which in their estimation, seem most important to present." Thus, a clearing house was set up for the undiminishing number of amendments submitted by constitution-conscious members. However, any amendment not presented by this committee could be brought to the floor by a majority vote. Also, the later-day Recommendations Committee was established with the stipulation "that there be a committee of three on recommendations for conventions," handling all non-constitutional recommendations.

The new committee's trial performance in 1933 elicited the satisfying conclusion that

several meetings of Grand Chapter, the Constitution Committee and the province presidents held for consideration of proposed constitutional amendments facilitated the business of convention greatly, and saved much time on the floor.

But it emerged with the somewhat confusing title of "Grand Council," which the 1934 Grand Chapter meeting sought to rectify when it recommended that the term "Grand Council" be changed to that of "Constitution Council," thus achieving a more accurate terminology for the new group scrutinizing proposed constitutional changes. But although this name appeared synonymous and interchangeable with that of Grand Chapter, it was not adjusted until the next decade. The 1935 convention recorded the calling of "the first Grand Council meeting under the new constitution adopted" in 1933, and the name was still the same in 1937.

The Constitution Committee inherited an extra function when the West Baden assemblage voted for it to "clarify or interpret the constitution and by-laws at the request of Grand Chapter, such interpretation to be accepted until the next convention."

Solving a much debated point, the Indiana meeting decided "that official delegates from college and alumnæ chapters [were hereafter to] forward reports to their respective province presidents thirty days before convention, to be combined into one report." This officially established the later-day pattern of incorporating chapter reports into those of the province presidents.

Although later years were to see this develop into the pre-convention training school for province presidents<sup>2</sup> conducted by national officers, the West Baden convention made provision for "a training school to instruct province presidents in the work of inspection, to be conducted by the retiring National Inspector on the day or days following convention."



Everyone connected with the fraternity's functioning was included in the 1937 constitutional requirement that "all officers of the fraternity, all national and province officers, all members of national or province committees and all alumnae advisers be required to be members in good standing."

GRAND CHAPTER: The fourth decade was a period of change for Grand Chapter. The first one of consequence came at the 1935 convention when the office of Grand Second Vice-President was created, and the National Inspector, who had been a member of Grand Chapter since the creation of that office in 1912, became an appointive, non-Grand Chapter officer, rather than an elected one. Hereafter appointed by Grand Chapter, her title was that of Field Secretary,\* instead of National Inspector.

"The purpose of this change was to relieve the traveling representative of the weight of the correspondence and work incidental to an administrative office, for Grand Chapter correspondence is always heavy," the post-convention *Themis* explained. "Thus, it was hoped to leave her time free for undivided attention to inspection work." The change was highly recommended by the retiring National Inspector,\*\* who urged it.

"The new office created on Grand Chapter, that of Grand Second Vice-President," *Themis* continued,

adds an officer who will hereafter direct the affairs of the active chapters, and there has been a new distribution of duties between the Field Secretary and the Second Vice-President, which will enable the latter officer to take over some of the many duties devolving upon the Grand President.

"The Grand First Vice-President, formerly known as the Grand Vice-President, will continue to have supervision of alumnae affairs. It is interesting to note that for the past twenty-three years, Zeta Tau Alpha has maintained the policy of having one traveling officer for visitation work among the chapters.

Perhaps that was the start, for the Swampscott convention made a considerable shift in officers' duties. Foremost was the "redistribution of duties in the offices of Grand President and Second Vice-President." Direction of the Field Secretary, "with the advice and consent of Grand Chapter," fell to the President, who was also given direction of the province presidents, with Grand Chapter's sanction. And the conducting of a training school for province presidents became one of her duties.

Up to this point the role of the First Vice-President, as constitutionally stated, was "to stimulate the interest of the alumnae." In 1937 she was specifically put "in charge of the alumnae of the fraternity." The Second Vice-President inherited the "preparation and distribution of the official *Pledge Manual*, while the Field Secretary was listed as chairman of the Ritual Committee."

\* Marjorie Glasson (Ross), Phi, was the first appointee.

\*\* Helen Kagay Prophet, Alpha Gamma, the last National Inspector, became the first Second Vice-President.

Concluding that the division of duties between the Vice-Presidents was out of balance, the Asheville Grand Chapter meeting reallocated the duties of those two officers, correlating the activities of the college and alumnæ chapters, with adequate attention given to each chapter.

The plan devised gave each Vice-President supervision of both college and alumnæ chapters instead of having the First Vice-President in charge of alumnæ chapters exclusively, and the Second Vice-President in charge of college chapters—the latter being considered too heavy an assignment for any one officer. With certain provinces allotted to each Vice-President, and the country fairly divided, the meeting set in motion the wheels of an experiment that was just getting under way as the decade ended. But the trial run was started.

In this period Grand Chapter's required annual meeting was held "at a time and place specified by the majority of Grand Chapter,"\* with written notice 'to all college and chartered alumnæ chapters and all Grand Chapter members at least six weeks prior to the meeting.'" Either the Grand President or a majority of Grand Chapter could call special meetings, provided "each Grand Chapter member received two weeks' notice." The Grand President could consider as affirmative any vote not received "within a specified, reasonable time," and "carbonș of all official correspondence were to be sent to all Grand Chapter members by Grand Chapter, the province presidents and committees."\*\*

Plans also called for a member of Grand Chapter, chosen by a majority vote of that body, to attend province conventions, but this 1930 provision was temporarily countermanded by the economy measures adopted in the deepest of the depression years. Officers who attended did so in an "unofficial capacity."† As times normalized, official representation at province meetings was resumed.

The province system had become so well established and was such an integral part of Zeta Tau Alpha's governmental structure by this time, that it was taken for granted and thus needs no further comment.

Province redistribution took place when expansion and geographical location of the chapters dictated, the 1933 convention giving Grand Chapter redistricting power thereafter.

State Days grew in popularity and became increasingly prevalent. Some states, such as Ohio in May, 1934, had their first state meetings in this decade.

Standing committees that were listed at the end of the decade were: Finance, Constitution, Scholarship, National Philanthropic, Ritual, Custodian of Greek Names, National Rushing Chairman, National Director of Chaperones, National Magazine Chairman,†† Chairman of Music.

\* 1930 national convention.

\*\* 1933 national convention.

† As late as 1935, the President reported attending the Eta province convention "unofficially."

†† A National Travel Chairman was listed for a brief time.



THE HISTORY OF ZETA TAU ALPHA  
CENTRAL OFFICE IN BEAUMONT, TEXAS



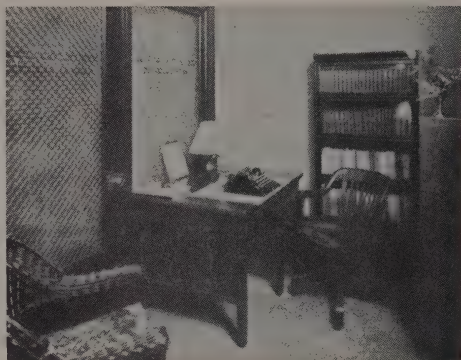
The Reception Room



The Grand President's Office



The Secretary-Treasurer's Office



The National Inspector's Office

CENTRAL OFFICE: From Virginia to Texas to Illinois—that was Central Office's routing in this decade.

Following the Bigwin Inn convention, the office was moved<sup>3</sup> to the home city of the Grand President, in Beaumont, Texas, "where headquarters were established in the San Jacinto Life Building. Four rooms on the third floor afforded commodious quarters for the offices of the Secretary-Treasurer and the National Inspector." Stenographic assistants and a full-time bookkeeper, together with the Secretary-Treasurer, comprised the staff, although at this time the National Inspector was active in the office during the periods she was in Beaumont.

Sentiment, however, began to express itself in terms of a permanent and centrally located home for Central Office. So, in 1930, for the first time since its creation, convention actively took up the subject of Central Office's location with the specific purpose of seeing that it settled down to one convenient location and ceased its travels. The thinking of 1930 was not that of 1920, but the office was popular, for a number of cities extended such cordial invitations that

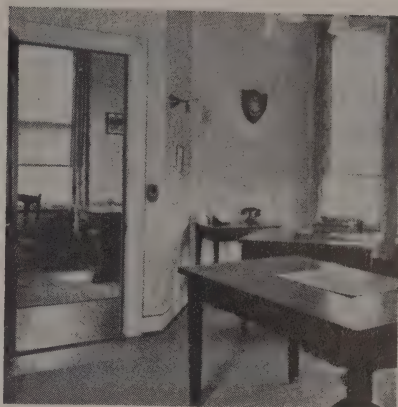


FOURTH DECADE—DECADE DEVELOPMENT  
THE OFFICES IN EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

653

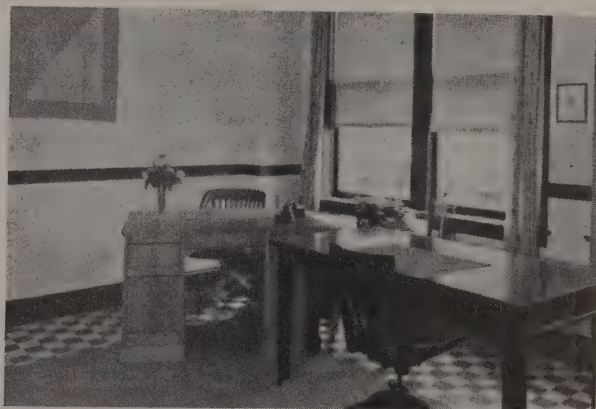


A CORNER of the office at 1580  
Sherman Avenue.



708 Church Street

The picture above, and the two below  
of the new Central Office appeared in  
the November, 1933, *Themis*.



The Secretary-Treasurer's pri-  
vate office. Left: May E. Young-  
berg.

keen competition developed at West Baden. After convention adopted a recommendation that the office be centrally and permanently located, a vote was taken on the cities bidding for it. Evanston, Illinois, was the successful aspirant.

August was the date of the move from Texas to a suite of offices at 1580 Sherman Avenue, in Evanston, and there it stayed until September, 1933, when another move provided a newer suite in a newer building at the 708 Church Street address that was to become so familiar to generations of Zetas.

By 1930 the officer in charge was assisted by a full-time bookkeeper and a full-time stenographer. "Necessary office assistants were allowed." In the following years both needs and finances<sup>4</sup> determined the number of full-time and part-time staff members.

**FINANCES:** There were many developments and challenges in the realm of finances which assumed towering proportions as the decade got under way. The whole era was one of adjustment to an economic upheaval.

The building boom of the previous decade collided violently with the stark reality of the early 'thirties, when decreased chapter rolls and depleted fortunes dissipated the roseate expectations of the roaring 'twenties and made a "hold-the-line-policy" about the best that could be expected. All over the country fraternities lost houses over-optimistically planned and financed. Inactivations were frequent and new buildings were few and far between. The time demanded sure steps. By 1933 there was no margin for error. And probably no Grand Chapter faced a more critical, challenging time than did the five officers who took stock after the Missouri convention, and realized the task ahead.

Reflective of the administrative financial policy, was this note in the President's 1935 report:

Chapters were warned through . . . *The Link* concerning the inadvisability of incurring unwarranted debts by succumbing to the attractive literature sent out by the Federal Housing Administration regarding the remodeling of chapter houses. Only when chapters are in very good financial condition has the incurrence of any additional liability been approved by Grand Chapter.

Of the years most closely connected in thought with the depression, the President's Pasadena report had this to say:

We are glad to be able to report a greatly improved financial condition . . . For the twenty-one months' period ending April 30, 1935, there was a very substantial excess of income over expenditures . . . and the income placed in endowment funds during the fiscal year ending July 31, 1934, and the nine months' period ending April 30, 1935, was correspondingly larger, due to increased income and keeping expenses within budget limitations.

At the outset of this administration . . . it was apparent that the strictest adherence to a sound financial policy was necessary . . . Grand Chapter was most glad to cooperate with the Finance Committee in accepting their recommendation regarding strict budget adherences, in not attending province conventions and traveling only in the most necessary instances,



By 1937<sup>5</sup> there was a general alleviation in economic conditions and the President was gratified that "chapter financial conditions have improved with the general improvement of the times." Also it was

noted that our fraternity assets are in a very liquid condition due to the extremely conservative policy of the Finance Committee in the investment of our funds during this period, when it has been almost impossible to place the fraternity funds in investments which would bring any appreciably higher rate of interest than that which could be received on bank balances. There is a greatly improved condition in the national fraternity finances . . .

But, retracing steps, just as the previous decade was the last of the pre-budget years, so was this one the beginning of the budget era. The Finance Committee had ready "a detailed budget for the ensuing two years for presentation at the 1930 convention," after which they were charged "with presenting a budget for convention, giving recommendations as to the amounts to be voted for dues, fees, salaries and other such appropriations allowed by the constitution." From then on, Zeta Tau Alpha lived by a budget and every convention saw a detailed one presented for consideration and adoption.

The Finance Committee of three was retained, but for a period following the 1933 convention a tightened constitutional requirement greatly restricted the selection of a chairman. Since, after convention, it was found that few members could meet the requirements, it was dropped some years later.

Following the 1928 convention's recommendation that the Finance Committee meet in conjunction with Grand Chapter, early meetings of the decade followed that pattern. In 1930 the President expressed the belief that the plan "facilitates and expedites work . . . in that it saves time by eliminating much correspondence between the two bodies." Not always possible, however, the practice became optional after 1933.

Determination of a fiscal year was effected early in the decade when, in 1929, the dates of August 1 through July 31 were selected. Eminently satisfactory, they held through succeeding years.

From 1929-1930 various commercial accountancy systems were scrutinized and a general survey of financial systems was made with a view to improving Zeta's system. In 1930 the Finance Committee recommended the installation of a national accounting system for all college chapters and in 1933 a commercial system was finally adopted. After two years' experience with it, the President told the Pasadena convention that—

In addition to the necessity of operating on a most conservative basis, since it was impossible to foretell what the next two years might bring about for fraternities, there were certain recommendations of the 1933 convention to be carried out, for which convention had made no provision in the budget.

The recommendation . . . regarding the employment of the Krebs system as the approved accounting system . . . was passed at the Grand Chapter meeting following convention, but since the financing of this for the active chapters had not been included in the budget, immediately it became a problem as to where the additional income was to be found. It



was decided that by strictest economy in other departments it would be possible to install the system in some of the chapters, and the ones which were the most in need of such a service were selected.

It has been increasingly apparent that it would be unwise to have anything in our constitution making it necessary to have such a service in every chapter, as there is an increasing tendency on the part of colleges and universities to install a system of financial supervision which they require the groups on their respective campuses to use. Most large national fraternities have found in the last few years a great need for very careful supervision of chapter finances, and while some employ a commercial service, others have developed a similar service in their national offices, with a great deal of success, and much saving . . .

The subsequent decision in 1935 put the supervision of chapter finances in Central Office. The excursion into the use of a commercial system ended. The auditing system of Central Office became the one used.

The \$50 life memberships of earlier days could now be acquired for \$25. Said the January, 1937 *Themis*:

Since the money from Zeta life memberships goes directly into the Philanthropic Fund, and is expended for the aid of the mountain folk in Currin Valley, the purchase of a life membership is also a donation to the Philanthropic Fund. The possessor of a life membership has, at once, credentials that establish her as a member in good standing and exempt her from further national alumnæ dues of \$1 a year. A membership certificate is also awarded.

After the absence of one for thirty-nine years, the 1937 convention adopted a \$5 national pledge fee, "with a proportionate reduction in the initiation fee."

**INSPECTIONS:** For the first time since the creation of the office of Traveling Secretary in 1912, the inspection schedule was cancelled for an interval when economic conditions dictated the retirement of the National Inspector from travel for one year. Restrained, but not unresourceful, "in the fall of 1932 the Grand President worked out a temporary plan which provided for chapter inspections by grand officers living near certain chapters and by interested, qualified alumnæ—a plan also designed to give the chapters closer and more constant supervision," wrote the National Historian in 1933. "The National Inspector kept in touch through correspondence."

At the 1933 Chicago meeting, Grand Chapter "concurred with the Finance Committee's recommendation that chapters should have a visit from a national officer at least once every two years," and the National Inspector resumed travel after that year's convention. By the time of its California pre-convention meeting it was Grand Chapter's conclusion that the traveling officer should "visit and inspect each college and chartered alumnæ chapter once during the two-year period between conventions." She was also to have "supervision of the work of the province presidents in reference to chapter inspections, with the advice and consent of Grand Chapter." Still concerned with technique, the next convention specified that the "province presidents were to visit and

inspect each active and college chapter once during the two years, the visits alternating with those of the Field Secretary."

It is obvious that the inspection system was the subject of continuing discussion and consideration during this decade. It was usually on the agenda, and as the officers strove for a perfected plan each convention left some mention of it.

Entirely a product of the times was the evolvement of the coorganizer system, whereby a well-qualified graduate student or undergraduate member was assigned to a chapter in need of such counselling and strengthening services.

Zeta Tau Alpha was not the originator\* of this system nor was it the first to send coorganizers to chapters. It was evolved when chapters were affected by the depression and depleted chapter rolls called for remedial measures. In "announcing the inauguration of the coorganizer system" the October, 1933 *Link* said:

It is with great pleasure that Zeta Tau Alpha has followed in line with the march of national fraternity progress by installing the coorganizer system which has, for some time, been employed by many of the large fraternities . . .

Some girls were chosen for known abilities, while others were given the opportunity of applying for coorganizer posts.

Following "the adoption of the system . . . the training and instructing of coorganizers were turned over to the National Inspector†," Helen Prophet reported in 1935. "A coorganizer's handbook and examination were prepared and sent to all coorganizers" with whom she "had a great deal of correspondence in familiarizing them with conditions at the chapters to which they were sent and in assisting them in carrying out their duties."

The same year Dorothy Hillix announced that "because of its newness it has been in an experimental stage, and we have been gradually evolving a plan for handling it. During the past two years it has been possible to send out only coorganizers . . ."

Two years later, in discussing the trend toward the "development of the individual," she told the 1937 convention:

In pursuit of this plan the coorganizer system has played a large part and although as time goes on and there will undoubtedly be less and less need to use [it] for strengthening and upbuilding chapters, it is the opinion of Grand Chapter that this type of assistance [should] always be available . . . whether it is employed to send a resident scholarship adviser to a group needing that particular type of assistance, or to send one or more girls to a specific campus for colonization purposes or to send coorganizers to a newly installed group during the first years of its existence . . .

It was also her hope that the system would not, in the future, be employed to the extent it had been during 1935-1937, but it was her belief that "it has

\* Alpha Phi and Kappa Kappa Gamma were pioneers in the use of this system.

† Changed after this convention, of course.

undoubtedly been a most successful means to meet the present situation."

As she foresaw, the number did taper off in the normal course of events, but the system itself, with its many advantages, was retained.

**STANDARDS:** In this decade the word "standards" did not mean all that it was to mean later. Standards at this time meant only a rating plan. Said Helen Prophet, under whom it operated:

"The ZTA standards adopted by the 1933 province presidents' school have been used as the basis for checking and grading active chapters, instead of being graded by the National Inspector at the time of inspection. [These] standards are the basis of estimating how one active chapter compares with another," and how successful it is "in all phases of chapter and campus life." Previously, chapters were graded on conditions found at the time of inspection. But some fared better than others because inspection came at a more advantageous time. So the standards plan<sup>6</sup> was evolved.

**EXAMINATIONS:** The National Inspector had charge of the annual examinations until 1935.<sup>7</sup> After that they were under the direction of the Second Vice-President, who prepared them with the assistance of a member qualified through teaching experience as well as fraternity knowledge. After they reached the chapter adviser via *The Link*, the adviser gave the examination, graded the papers and sent the results to the Second Vice-President. Grades were published in *The Link*, as were the standards grades.

**CHAPTER SIZE:** Prior to the previous decade (1918-1928), small or moderate-sized chapters lived in houses that were adequate and sometimes beautiful, but usually less than palatial or baronial. Came the war and subsequent increased enrollments, and chapter size began to inch higher, even before the building boom swept across the country. Once that trend started, the pace was set for everyone. By the end of the decade palatial fraternity houses, of which Zeta had its share, dotted the campuses, and chapters had grown larger. The size held until around 1931. Then came the drop in many localities that made the next few years difficult for some, critical for others. The times stepped in to govern size. Recording changing conditions in the early 'thirties, the National Historian wrote in 1933:

Fraternity chapters were generally smaller in number in 1933 than they were in 1928, for economic conditions had affected college and university enrollments, resulting in marked decreases in registration. Zeta Tau Alpha chapters generally reflected this widespread trend, with smaller chapters being more the rule than the exception. Some retained their pre-depression size, while others acutely felt the effects of the limited numbers from which they had to draw and the financial exigencies of the times, which kept a growing percentage from fraternity affiliation because of inability to meet the financial obligations.

The percentage of unorganized students on campuses was unprecedentedly large, and the



financial limitations and struggles of many others placed definite restrictions on the tempo of both college and fraternity life of that period. Entertainment and life became more simple than in the opulent era just preceding. Lavish and expensive functions were not in order in 1933, and in many places chapters settled down determinedly, with the stern resolution to survive the stringencies and handicaps of the times. In July, 1933, Zeta Tau Alpha's chapter roll was still intact.

While some "settled down determinedly with the stern resolution to survive," others were relatively unaffected. Kappa remained by far the largest chapter in the fraternity, nearing the one-hundred mark, and in time going considerably over it. Some chapters dipped, then went on to new heights. For a few, 1933 and the early 'thirties inflicted decade-long problems. Chapters living in houses were inevitably the most affected.

**ALUMNÆ:** Alumnæ were under the jurisdiction of the Grand Vice-President when this decade opened, and they continued to be until 1938, for the changed setup of 1935 that gave Zeta two Vice-Presidents retained for the new First Vice-President the duties of the former Grand Vice-President. But effective from June, 1938 on, was Grand Chapter's experimental trial separation of the duties of the two Vice-Presidents, when certain alumnæ chapters were allocated to each of them.

The 1929 levy of an annual contribution of fifty dollars to the Philanthropic Fund from chartered alumnæ chapters and twenty dollars from unchartered chapters was repealed a few years later, but it was in force for a time in this philanthropic-conscious period. However, after 1935, alumnæ chapters were required to make an annual cash contribution. And although much debated, no adjustment was made in alumnæ dues, which remained one dollar a year. The 1930 convention reiterated that alumnæ charters were to be granted under the direction of the Grand Vice-President, who later cosigned them with the Grand President. Three years later, Grand Chapter recommended a reinstatement charter fee of five dollars and "at least one Zeta Tau Alpha educational meeting during the year for all alumnæ chapters."

Favored beyond this decade was Grand Chapter's 1937 plan which gave an alumnæ chapter the sponsorship of a college chapter located in a town where no alumnæ group existed. Working out the assignments, the plan was put into effect at once.

The April, 1938, *Link* carried the reminder that "every chapter must have an alumnæ advisory board of four: a general chapter adviser, a rushing adviser, a financial adviser and a pledge adviser.

### *Expansion*

The tempo of the accelerated, but declining 'twenties carried over to the next two-year period of 1928-1930. And in it Zeta Tau Alpha achieved the status of

an international organization with the installation of Beta Rho chapter at the University of Manitoba, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. May 3-6 marked the entrance of the fraternity into the Dominion of Canada, and all Zeta Tau Alpha wholeheartedly welcomed the new group from across the Border.<sup>8</sup>

The acquisition of a Canadian chapter realized a long-held dream and a proud note rang through an editorial in the May, 1929, *Themis* when the Editor reflected triumphantly on Zeta's

wide-flung sisterhood, with sixty-one active chapters in all parts of the country—from Texas, Alabama and Georgia to Manitoba, one of the western provinces of the vast Dominion of Canada, and from the west coast of California, Oregon and Washington, to the state of Massachusetts on the Atlantic seaboard . . . some fifty-nine alumnae chapters, thirty-nine of which proudly display alumnae charters and . . . Zeta Tau Alpha now stands fifth in size among the N.P.C. fraternities, according to the March, 1929 census.

In the same issue the President told the fraternity that "we are literally swamped with applications on which favorable action cannot be granted under our present program of progress. Zeta Tau Alpha, as you know, is inclined more to the exclusive than the expansive idea. Quality has brought us to the present high pinnacle of attainment and recognition and quality will protect our future . . . the influence of our fraternity covers a wide expanse of territory<sup>9</sup> . . ."

Reviewing extension activity during this interval the President, Bertha Cruse Gardner, said in her report to the 1930 convention:

During each administration there is always much discussion relative to extension. This is a vital part in the life of any fraternity. It is not mere numbers that count, but the *quality* of material which gives value to our extension. When the proper opportunity presents itself, it is our duty to embrace it. This policy seems to be the trend . . . of N.P.C. fraternities.

During this administration there have been seven installations, which is quite an increase. When you consider that three of these groups were charter grants holding over from the previous administration, and that only four charters have been granted by the present Grand Chapter, you will see that Zeta Tau Alpha is merely keeping pace with the other N.P.C. fraternities on extension.

The chapters installed included Beta Nu at New Mexico State College, in November, 1928; Beta Xi at the University of Akron, in January, 1929; Beta Omicron at the University of South Carolina, in March, 1929; Beta Pi at the University of Oregon, in April, 1929; Beta Rho at the University of Manitoba, in May, 1929; Beta Sigma at Southwestern University (in Memphis), in May, 1929, and Beta Tau at Albion College, in October, 1929.

But soon after 1930, depression conditions became more marked. Charter grants veered sharply "toward a trend of marked conservatism," with just three chapters installed in the interim between conventions: Beta Upsilon at Kansas State College, in May, 1931; Beta Phi at Michigan State College in October, 1931, and Beta Chi at Washington University, in November, 1931.

This completed the chapter roll up to July, 1933, for in 1932 Zeta Tau Alpha was one of the women's fraternities granting no charters that year. In 1931, of the twenty-one N.P.C. fraternities, Zeta Tau Alpha ranked sixth in number of chapters. The 1932 census placed the fraternity seventh, with sixty-three active chapters.

All installations from 1928-1933 were under the personal supervision of the Grand President, who acted as the installing officer of each chapter. This was the first time in Zeta's history that the fraternity's chief executive personally installed every new group to whom a charter was granted during her incumbency.

Zeta's traditional procedure of charter grant by Grand Chapter vote alone underwent a slight alteration when the 1930 convention made provision for province voice. It was specified that Grand Chapter "call for the recommendations of the active and alumnæ chapters in the province from which the petition came. Upon favorable recommendation of the majority of chapters in the province, together with the unanimous vote of Grand Chapter, a charter may be granted."

This was the first change in charter grant policy since the fraternity's founding and the new stipulation was considered to be virtually "the equivalent of voting power." It became established procedure from then on.

Although many inquiries and petitions were received from 1930-1933, and several investigations and inspections were made, only the three previously mentioned chapters were successful. Said a 1933 record:

Inability to meet Zeta Tau Alpha's requirements or pass the inspection test, doubtfulness of a given college's status as a fraternity field and many other reasons contributed to the lack of extension in 1932 and 1933. . . . In but one instance did the new ruling requiring favorable province recommendation prevent the chartering of a group. . . . Some of those rejected were later successful in securing charters from other N.P.C. groups.

"There are no charters pending," the President told the 1933 convention, "but fields for further investigation are being turned over to the incoming administration." From their January meeting in Chicago came the recommendation that "Grand Chapter be given the power to investigate possible fields of extension, and when necessary, to colonize." Accordingly, the Missouri convention "approved expansion by colonization in sections where there are not many Zeta chapters"—words familiarly reminiscent of similar sentiment voiced at the 1928 convention.

With the concentration demanded on preserving the existing chapter roll, and the valiant "hold-the-line" efforts exacted of all fraternities as a result of the severe economic times, it was not surprising that no new links were added to the chain of chapters between 1933 and 1935.<sup>10</sup> Dorothy Hillix gave the 1935 convention a picture of the whole extension field when she reported the well-known fact that



in fraternity circles there has been a marked decrease in charter grants among the twenty-three N.P.C. fraternities in the past few years. Between 1931-1932, forty-one charters were granted . . . a decrease of five in the number granted in the preceding year. Just twenty-seven charters were granted by all twenty-three groups between 1932 and 1933, a decrease of fourteen in the number chartered during the preceding year. In tracing the effect of the depression you may note that the 1932 census revealed that there was, in that year, an increase of two over the charter grants in 1930, but in 1932 there was a decrease of charter grants and a decrease of fourteen in 1933, showing the gradual decline in extension among the N.P.C. fraternities.

Zeta Tau Alpha felt, she said, that "while following out a conservative extension policy it has been considered wise to keep our finger on the pulse of national expansion developments by investigating possible fields for future expansion."

Colonization at the University of Georgia was recommended (after a national officer's visit there in 1934), but the President reminded convention that the fraternity needed "to appropriate funds for carrying out colonization plans, since the recommendation passed by last convention did not provide any financial recommendation."

Petitioning groups were still being given informal and formal inspections, for "alumnæ members have been requested to make informal inspections of petitioning groups as necessary." And "the National Inspector [had] been instructed to make two formal inspections"—a fact strongly indicative of two probable installations in the near future.

That proved to be true. Ending the depression-dictated expansion lull, in October, 1935, Beta Psi at Stetson University, became the first chapter to be installed since 1931. Beta Omega, at Union University, followed closely in December.<sup>11</sup>

"The extension holiday started by most of the national organizations just prior to and during the depression era has terminated in the past two years for a great many women's fraternities," Mrs Hillix told the Swampscott convention. "There has been a marked increase in the number of charter grants in the past year. There has been some interest shown in granting charters to small institutions, also several charters have been granted to the larger state universities," she said in explaining location trends.

Further, "Zeta Tau Alpha has continued a conservative extension policy during this period, while at the same time we have endeavored to be alert to all openings which warranted our attention and interest . . ." Then, returning to the mechanics of colonization, she reminded convention again, as she did in 1935, that

national conventions have many times gone on record as approving colonization as a method of fraternity expansion, but at no time have any funds been set aside for this purpose, and it is therefore recommended that part of the Coorganizer Fund be made available for colonization purposes as needed.

The Gamma series was introduced in March, 1938, with the installation of Gamma Alpha, at the University of Miami. Zeta's first chapter in Maryland, Gamma Beta, followed in April.

Fall colonization at the University of Mississippi was placed on the agenda of the June, 1938, Grand Chapter meeting and in October of that year, Gamma Gamma, at Texas Western College, became the fourth Zeta chapter in the state of Texas, and the last to be installed in the fourth decade. It was also Zeta's fortieth anniversary chapter.

In all, twelve chapters were added in this troublous depression-labelled decade, that started as the 'twenties were waning and ran almost the entire span of the more sombre 'thirties.

### *Publications*

THEMIS: This was an especially interesting era in the *Themis* story, because it was one of such change, with probably more developments than in any other decade. Rapid progress marked its beginning. If the tempo seemed fast, no one thought of it as such, for it only reflected the tenor and pace of the late 'twenties that were not yet overcast by the depression when the decade opened. And the star-hitching plans of the Editor were heartily shared by an enthusiastically magazine-conscious fraternity.<sup>12</sup>

At the start, a completely transformed May, 1928,<sup>13</sup> issue completed Volume XXVI, but that more than the maintenance of a mere status quo might be expected was indicated in the Editor's hint that "next year's plans . . . may be even more ambitious . . ." But there was no waiting until "next year," for in just a few months another re-made November issue of 116 pages was introduced. Announced was

. . . a completely transformed magazine, both inside and outside . . . with an entirely new format, the introduction of the first Zeta Pictorial, the several art features and the brand-new cover design, modern in every sense, and in harmony with the present tendency in the graphic arts. . . . The changes and innovations are in keeping with the trend of the times . . .

From that auspicious start, things moved fast the next two years. It was well that they did. The lush years of the 'twenties were coming to an end, and it was fortunate that the remaining short interval was so industriously utilized to the fullest to effect striking advances in the magazine.

In what might be called the 1928-1930 development plan, "each issue showed steady improvement" and, unprecedentedly, "each volume (the collection of the four quarterly issues) appeared with an entirely new format—the result of a summer's work."

In the January, 1929 *Themis*, the traditional gave way to the new when "the growing province consciousness" dictated grouping "the active chapter

letters by provinces. The directory section [was] also revamped accordingly.

Zeta Tau Alpha was thirty-one years old and *Themis* was twenty-six when engagement notices made their exit from the pages of the magazine, with good and sufficient reason, after recurring editorial experiences with frantic, "stop-the-press-engagement-terminated" telegrams. "Nothing less than a fully tied knot gets a place in the columns of *The Phi Gamma Delta*," the March, 1929, *Themis* quoted, as a preliminary to the exit announcement. Concurring with Phi Gamma Delta that "the mortality among betrothals is too great," Zeta's Editor added, "but we love to print wedding announcements."

"By special request and authorization," the sprightly May, 1929 number featured "A Trip Over Zeta-land" designed for use in rushing, as well as the stimulation of increasingly greater pride. . . . A miniature textbook on Zeta Tau Alpha, it was highly illustrated and contained more pictures and pages (some 200) than any other issue in the magazine's history. It closed Volume XXVII and "ended a year of unprecedented attainment . . ."

But again there was no resting on the oars, even temporarily.

Progressive as recent issues had been, it was not enough, "for in the summer of 1929 plans were made . . . for the next step" befitting *Themis'* "present pinnacle position."<sup>14</sup> Philosophizing away the weeks of work, the Editor wryly commented that the "reorganization of a magazine is not accomplished by the wave of a hand" and with that, gratified readers found that the November, 1929,<sup>15</sup> issue introduced another format, "which was considered a great improvement" over 1928.

It was distinctly a "new look." "It revealed striking new heads of typographical beauty, and elaborate layouts, while the size (136 pages) set a new record for November issues. Numerous art features and decorations appeared, and they were constantly added to as various artists, professional and amateur, contributed their talents . . ."

Further, for the first time the magazine appeared in a cover dress\* neither gray nor blue. As a compliment to Zeta's first chapter in Canada, the colors of the British empire were used. That was the beginning of a colorful era in cover designs that replaced, for a time, the previous traditional use of the invariable blue and gray.

The cover itself did not change until the January, 1930 issue, when "a soft gray cover introduced another design, drawn along lines of classic simplicity—in harmony with the typography of *Themis*." Using Zeta-drawn sketches, the Editor expressed the desire "to use and encourage artistic talent within the fraternity . . ." A March issue (with 164 pages), in turquoise blue and gray, was succeeded by May, a springtime, pre-convention number in a gay green dress. The color cycle was started.

\* This was the only time that this particular cover design was used.



On record is the "critical analysis" which "one of the most skilled editors" (a recognized typographical expert) made of *Themis* at this juncture. His opinion was that

"During the last year *Themis* has been even better than during recent years . . . particularly the last four issues, which completed Volume XXVIII. [The] tremendous improvement effected has made *Themis* one of the very best in the sorority magazine field. . . . The great increase in personality articles and constant use of face cuts must make *Themis* of great interest to its readers, because every good journalist knows that names and faces make the best reading for the majority of people." And articles on Zeta fliers proved that *Themis* was "wide-awake, because nothing is so modern and pulsing today as aviation."

"Most noticeable has been the revamping of the typographical style," with new type "the same as is now used in the *American* magazine." And it was "not amiss to say that *Themis*, in its present form, bore a strong resemblance to that publication . . . no mean compliment." The "more modern makeup [varied] from page to page," avoiding the "monotony in many fraternity and sorority publications." Also, "the use of decorative cuts done in true feminine fashion [gave] *Themis* a touch it had not had before."

The new cover was "simple, dignified and beautiful, one of the most attractive of its kind. . . ."

A permanent change was the removal of "the old hairline from all the new cuts"—another modernization which "greatly improved the appearance of the illustrations."

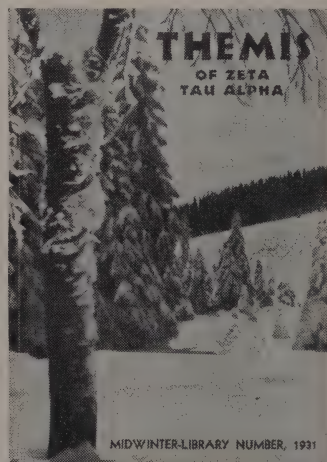
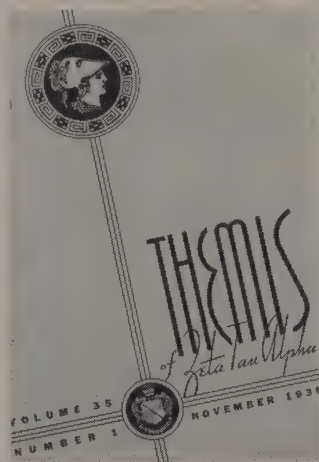
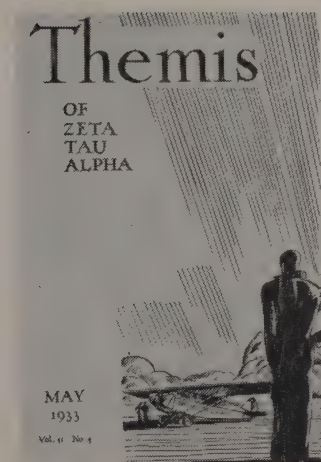
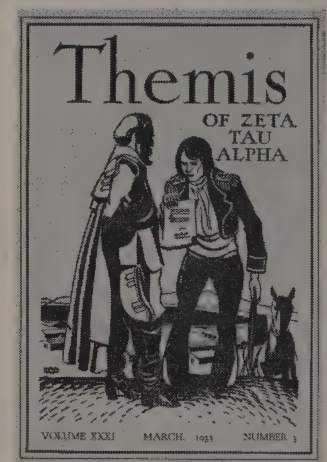
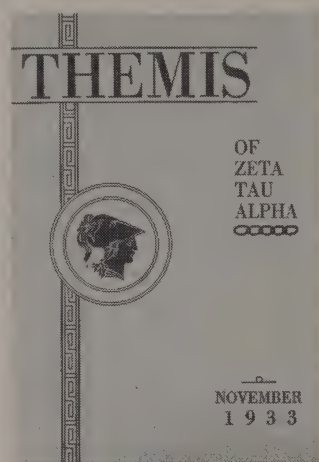
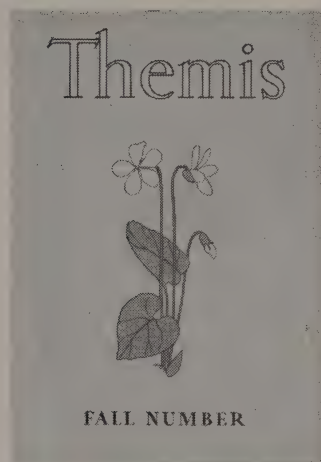
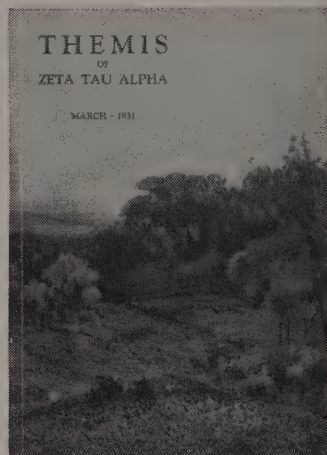
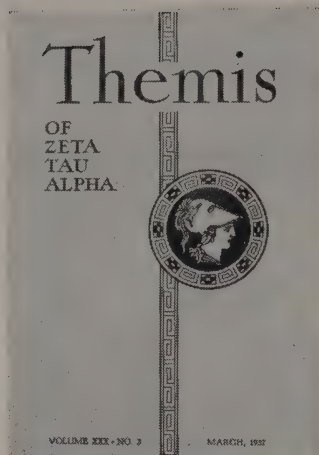
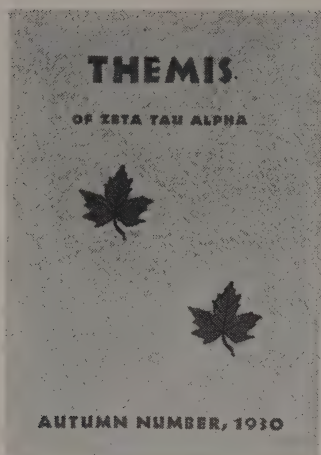
While the buoyancy of achievement permeated the Editor's report,<sup>16</sup> she philosophized that "we have reached a high point in our endeavors, but our work is never done, our goal never definitely reached . . . we have worked hard to attain our position<sup>17</sup>—we shall have to work just as hard to keep it . . ." She was not wrong.

The much-commended November, 1930<sup>18</sup> post-convention issue contained 113 news-filled pages, and the January, 1931, Midwinter Library Number was considered "one of the most outstanding issues." "It represented [a] sincere effort to introduce the movement of chapter libraries in Zeta Tau Alpha.

"In March, 1931, *Themis* achieved permanent fame . . . for, with its four-color reproduction of Julian Onderdonk's famous painting, 'Blue Bonnets,'<sup>19</sup> it achieved the distinction of being the first women's fraternity magazine to appear with a cover printed by the four-color process."

Not unexpectedly did the Editor's 1933 report<sup>20</sup> dwell somewhat at length on the interspersing of picture covers with conventional ones, for here began the period of picture covers—the first that Zeta Tau Alpha had ever had, and not even the depression kept the observant and intensely interested membership from generating opinions pro and con. But that was salutary, and not surprising in view of Zetas' traditional affection for and interest in the magazine.

"In considering . . . the harmonious color combinations that have distinguished *Themis* the last few years . . . the magazine has followed a modified



THEMIS Cover Designs (Pictorial and Conventional) of The Fourth Decade

progressive policy, with a trend somewhat away from the uninterrupted use of one conventional design in a defined set of colors." Explaining that contemporary trend was toward pictorial covers, *Themis'* policy had been to use the conventional cover at least once a year in the fraternity colors. But in 1932, three out of four were conventional, two being in the colors. The conventional cover had "been used in various attractive color combinations," while the five pictorial covers were "usually illustrative of, or appropriate to, a particular issue."

Thus, while "conforming to the trend of the times . . . *Themis* attempted to strike a happy balance between the old and the new, giving the magazine the advantages of both courses." The Editor herself had no unchangeable "inclination" on the issue of conventional versus feature cover designs. Her "sole interest . . . was to keep *Themis* abreast of the time and representative of it . . ." The pictorial covers were continued for only a short time thereafter.

What she did not say, and perhaps did not even admit to herself, was that the picture covers could easily have been a compensatory measure or a diversionary device to make less evident the reduced size of the magazine.

For the pre-1930 halcyon days were over. With those glittering years only a memory, the sumptuous issues of over 200 pages were replaced by restricted issues of a specified minimum number. Of this 1930-1933<sup>21</sup> period, when depression restrictions first descended, the Editor said:

From November, 1930,<sup>22</sup> to January, 1932, *Themis* remained much the same size as of old, but after that . . . the size was cut to sixty-four pages minimum . . . in accordance with the economy recommendation. . . .

Although the past year alone effected a saving of \$1,200, *Themis* underwent no internal alterations<sup>23</sup> because the magazine was already planned for as economical production as would be consistent with its standards.

Consequently, in spite of its lesser bulk . . . the magazine has maintained its personality and shown constant improvement. . . . Magazine experts reported that the "space limitations have been handled exceedingly well" and that "despite the difficulties of the times, *Themis* has maintained [its] place of prestige. . . ."

As an economy measure, the May, 1932 *Themis* used a condensation of chapter letters . . . "for that one issue," the innovation used by many others not being continued thereafter. Depression or no depression, sentiment ardently preferred the usual form of complete chapter letters.

"Aside from that instance, and the omission of alumnae letters from the May, 1933<sup>24</sup> issue, the departments of *Themis* went along about as usual, although a new frontispiece and other features were worked out." Replacing those outmoded by changing styles in clothes, new decorative sketches appeared in January, 1933, for the active and alumnae departments. Chapter letters were given a feature presentation in May, 1932. New forms and heads for other departments were worked out . . . combining appearance with economy.

Borrowed cuts<sup>25</sup> and innumerable ingenious devices effected "a saving in



the engraving bill," and while "cheerfully and willingly cooperating with this economy measure," the Editor was nonetheless gratified that "there was no decrease in the number of commendatory letters that arrived" from so many sources.

Health Center was often featured and highlighted during this decade, especially at the beginning of it, and the magazine continually carried a wealth of Health Center features<sup>26</sup> and news. "In Currin Valley" was a standing department.

But the most difficult time lay ahead, for the 1933 convention reduced the budget to a point that made *Themis*' regular continuance as a full-fledged magazine—and not as a pamphlet—extremely difficult.

Of this critical time the chairman of the Finance Committee said in her 1935 report,

When this committee took office, *Themis* had already suffered from lack of funds, and we were fortunate, through the devoted efforts of [the editor] that it was not reduced more drastically. The first cut came following the October, 1931 Finance Committee meeting, when it was cut to 64 pages. It was further reduced in size at the 1933 convention. However, under the present budget, *Themis* has been restored to the 84-page size and the 1935-1937 budget provides for a still greater *Themis*.

But before 1935 reports were being read, two critical years had to be weathered.

"It was apparent," the Editor told the California assemblage that

the task of keeping *Themis* on its high plane . . . on a drastically curtailed budget, presented a challenge calling for a strong heart . . . and a swift marshalling of all available resources and skill. It fell to the Editor to do as much as possible with the money allotted. . .

[The years] 1930 and 1933 were in different economic worlds . . . but it is interesting that during the last two years *Themis* operated on a budget something like \$6,000 less than was available in 1930. . . . Following the 1933 convention, which gave *Themis* the smallest publication sum ever [allotted] for a circulation rapidly mounting to 8,000 . . . it is phenomenal that, in the face of such restrictions, *Themis*<sup>27</sup> maintained the same number of pages as it had in the period just preceding, and gained, rather than sacrificed, in quality and standards. Extraordinary measures, the new format, an advantageous contract, unusual cooperation from the publisher and the use of personal contacts all contributed to make this possible.

The first step was a new, streamlined format that "provided for an unusually compact magazine." This, amazingly, included an actual word count. "The change," she reported, "gained around 1,600 words per 64-page issue. So while, from March, 1932, to January, 1935, the number of pages remained the same (an achievement in itself), from November, 1933, to May, 1933, we were actually printing some 6,400 more words than in the preceding corresponding period."

Not disregarding, but minimizing, the financial limitation that was the true motivating cause, the Editor solemnly recorded later that there were "two

reasons for revamping the magazine: One, the trend in typography, which [is] away from ornate, elaborate layouts, and two, the financial necessities resulting from a curtailed budget."

Interesting, and perhaps opportunely, the first reason *was* valid, for at the 1933 fall meeting of the N.P.C. Editors' Conference, "much discussion revolved around ways and means of achieving economy; short-cuts to saving money without being too apparent"—typical 1933 strategy and thinking. Her "ideas and convictions" about a streamlined magazine crystallized as a result.

Reflecting the fraternity's unswerving preference for beautiful covers in Zeta's colors, a 1933 recommendation hoped "that *Themis* covers [would] be of a conventionalized design in gray and blue." So, that fall the conventional cover was revamped and with the exception of the post-convention and the January, 1934 numbers, which were in color, the cover designs were in "harmonious combinations of our colors . . . with even blue and silver at times. Silver, though, is a luxury. It costs more . . ."

Meanwhile, the N.R.A. Engravers' Code which went into effect in the fall of 1933 did its bit toward aggravating the problem. It slashed previously advantageous discount rates and established "set minimum prices higher than those figured in the curtailed 1933-1935 budget." Paper prices advanced, too,<sup>28</sup> but "*Themis* was protected through 1934 by an advance purchase of paper stock that effected a saving . . ."

Active chapter letters appeared in the January, March, and May issues, while alumnæ letters were found in the November and March numbers. The frequency of their appearance reflected both practical aspects plus a general trend away from the earlier-day four-times-a-year frequency. In this, *Themis* was a leader in the Greek world.

Weathering the crisis—and perhaps even extracting a bit of gain from it—the first slim, streamlined issues of 1933 gradually evolved into the proud seventy-two page January, 1935 issue that opened the new year. The convention-publicity laden March and May numbers boasted eighty pages, the "gains [being] made possible by increased revenue from convention advertising and the regular income accruing over the budget." That was encouraging.

The ninety-two page 1935 post-convention issue seemed almost reminiscent of former opulent issues, but the next two years carried continuing challenges, and Virginia Conley again spoke for the Finance Committee when she told the Swampscott convention that

*Themis* has suffered because of lack of funds even though its size [number of pages] has been restored. It is only through the devoted efforts of the Editor that the magazine has been able to keep its high standard during a period of rising publication costs . . .

That the "constantly increasing circulation" constituted a welcome, but ever-present, problem was evidenced "by the fact that in May, 1935, 7,935 copies

were printed, against 8,771 copies ordered for the May, 1937 number—a gain of 836 copies.”

Still undaunted, the Editor was “gratified that *Themis* had not only maintained its necessary number of pages but has added three new columns<sup>29</sup> and features, presented a new cover design, and made important gains.” True, “operating under a limited budget<sup>30</sup> presented a challenge . . . to surmount the often seemingly insurmountable financial handicaps . . .,” but the magazine had definitely weathered the stormy days,<sup>31</sup> and with no outward sign except a reduced number of pages.

The feature-packed 1935 post-convention number proved to be the last of its size. The page size was increased to 7 by 10 inches with the January, 1936 issue.

Two issues later, Volume XXXV made its début with the November, 1936 issue, in a “new, modern cover . . . made basically from the former design.”

In 1937, *Themis*<sup>32</sup> began alternating active and alumnae letters. The move was made “with Grand Chapter approval and in conformity with budget requirements, as well as present day trends.” College chapter letters appeared in January and May;<sup>33</sup> alumnae letters were printed in November and March.<sup>34</sup>

Editorials as such disappeared in this decade. A powerful factor and a popular feature for years, their quality held, but they became a casualty of changing times. Missed by many, for a time (by request) a “Here and There—With the Editor” column of editorial comment substituted in some measure.

Authors often say that, as they write, events and characters take possession of a story and virtually take over its subsequent development. Something not too unlike that happened here. The development of the fourth decade *Themis* story was predestined and self-propelled once the data were assembled and the notes made. Unplanned and unexpected, a saga of depression-shadowed years unfolded, with sharp challenges and extremes, threaded through with the theme of “it can be done—it must be done.”

A challenging decade for *Themis*, as well as other departments of the fraternity, the magazine was in its own special category as Zeta Tau Alpha’s representative to the public and its own far-flung membership. For, as the President reminded the 1930 convention, “it is through *Themis* that the impression of Zeta Tau Alpha is presented to the Greek world, as well as to our own members,” and it was the conviction of *Themis*’ Editor that that impression should always be good, if not superior. The responsibility—and opportunity—was fully recognized when depression-bred conditions endangered the quality of that representation.

No element of chance gave the epochal ten years their happy ending. It was carved by unremitting work and vigilance, devotion to a cause, and “the constant determination to surmount the often seemingly insurmountable.” It had to be done. It *was* done.



*THE HISTORY OF ZETA TAU ALPHA, 1898-1928, Volume II*, by Shirley Kresan Krieg.

Volume II of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*, the blue-bound, gold-stamped companion to Volume I, appeared late in 1929. It was as warmly received as Volume I had been. The Greek world's estimate of the book was reflected in the review written for *Banta's Greek Exchange*, by George Banta, Sr., "dean of fraternity editors and one of the foremost fraternity authorities in the country," who said:

The second volume of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*, completing the historical work of the sorority, appeared on the last day of the old year. It is a most fitting rounding out of the work begun in 1928, when the first volume was published and, as was planned in the beginning, does bring the sorority down to that date.

It is hardly needed to say that the onerous task assumed by Mrs. Krieg in 1923 has been thoroughly and well done. . . .

Of a total of the 658 pages of the book the first ninety-three are devoted to the history of the building of the substantial framework of the *alumnæ* organization . . . with the stories of the individual chapters themselves. . . .

Then follow 474 pages of the life stories of the undergraduate chapters. To anyone who has had part in the work of building a fraternity or sorority this section is necessarily of much interest, as are the succeeding thirty-seven pages describing the customs, traditions and policies of Zeta Tau Alpha. The remaining pages bring down the general history from 1928, when the first volume appeared, to date, including the annals, sketches of individuals who came into the executive work of Zeta Tau Alpha at the convention of 1928.

Summed up, the book is just what its title claims for it and the subject matter is admirably arranged and all it should be. We congratulate Mrs. Krieg upon the wholly successful finish of the tremendous task she assumed in 1923.

The Zeta reviewer, Adelaide Hazeltine Jones,\* Mu-Alpha Psi, gave the fraternity its first comprehensive account of the new volume in the March, 1930, *Themis*. She wrote:

"Know thyself" is the keynote of the second volume of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*. If there remains one Zeta who does not "know" her fraternity after reading this second volume it is no fault of the capable author-historian or of the legion of loyal members who supplied her with data.

She continued:

While the first volume of the *History* concerns itself with the building of the fraternity as a whole, the second pictures the growth of the individual units—active and *alumnæ* chapters—important factors in creating history.

The first chapter . . . traces the evolution of the *alumnæ* organization. . . . As we read further . . . we find an invariable influence of *alumnæ* upon the establishment of active chapters and the promotion of fraternity welfare. That there were sixty-four *alumnæ* chapters, chartered and unchartered, at the end of 1928 is proof that *alumnæ* organizations have justified their existence.

\* The well-qualified reviewer was a "former chapter letter editor of *Themis*, journalist and advertising expert."

### Turning to the undergraduate section:

The second section records the history of active chapters. From the election of Alpha's first president to the description of Beta Nu in New Mexico, the *History* moves on with an ever-increasing impetus of facts that is astonishing when we realize that in the majority of cases this is the first comprehensive record of the chapter ever written. No wonder this section occupies approximately two-thirds of the entire space of the volume! The amount of detail is appalling to the casual reader, but as we delve into it we find the succession of facts, which are essential if the history is to be of value, relieved by refreshingly human incidents worthy of a romantic novel. Here the gift of the true historian is evidenced, for [the author] knows where the recording of facts overlaps the recording of character, attitudes and feelings, and she does not hesitate to present them. It is this recognition of dramatic news interwoven with historical data which lifts the second volume . . . out of the commonplace of records and places it within the boundary of literary achievement.

The third section . . . contains customs, traditions and policies of the fraternity, recording for the first time many hitherto unwritten practices. . . . There is sufficient material in this chapter alone to give a baby chapter a ready-made set of traditions and policies. We prophesy that scores of old chapters will find it a revelation, too! In some ways this part, alone, would justify the writing of the *History*. Knowledge of such traditions makes for unity of purpose, of chapter life, and finally of fraternal organization.

Chapter IV is a classified list of Zetas who have won sufficient distinction in their professions to be elected to honorary and professional organizations. . . .

The supplement is a record of the eleventh national convention and was appended . . . to make the record up-to-date within the history dates of 1898-1928 (ending with December, 1928). It ends with a chapter roll showing sixty-two chapters.

### In an evaluating summation she concluded:

Throughout, there is a completeness of detail and a terseness of style coupled with dependable information—data that took months, years to collect. But the weight of historical fact is constantly lightened by interesting asides in the form of supplementary notes. Of course, the reader wonders if the popular dress in the early photograph of Lambda chapter is a uniform—and is equally delighted to learn through the notes that the scarcity of evening gowns that year made it necessary for three-fourths of the chapter to wear the dress of Rose Nelson Hughes.

And so we close the second volume of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*, the first and latest record of the fraternity . . . That the first thirty years of its history is written in indelible ink is a monument to the ceaseless efforts and power of the gifted historianship which [the author] has brought as a gift to her fraternity.

The 658-page volume contained chapters on (1) Alumnae Organization, (2) Chapter Histories, (3) Customs, Traditions and Policies, (4) Honorary and Professional Directory, (5) 1928 Supplement, (6) Chapter Roll.

"The appearance of this book," wrote the author, "marks the last of the volumes of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha* . . . Given to the fraternity as rapidly as circumstances and the extent and nature of the work permitted, the production of *The History* was found not to be unlike the celebrated building of Rome—not done in a day! That increasing months of patient and persistent effort are required, is the eternal lesson learned by every historical writer who, in the quest for accuracy and completeness, finds the time lengthen-

ing as research and writing goes on . . . [But] the difficult pioneer work connected with the writing of the fraternity's first historical record is now done . . ."

Despite the size of the original large order "the supply of *The History* was exhausted in the spring of 1931." The first reprint (second edition) of "1,579 sets, or 3,158 volumes," was in circulation before the 1933 convention. A third edition came off the press in August, 1935.

The volumes became an integral part of the fraternity, woven into its very fabric.

### History Presentation

Presented to—

The Virginia State Teachers' College with the gratitude and esteem of Zeta Tau Alpha, one of the national organizations born within her walls—

The 1933 Grand Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha

By Shirley Kreasan Krieg

"The two volumes of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha* now repose on the shelves of the library of the Virginia State Teachers' College," the March, 1935, issue of *Themis* told the Zeta world.

"Following authorization of Grand Chapter, and on behalf of that body and the fraternity," the autographed volumes were "recently presented . . . to President J. L. Jarman. Many Zetas will be happy to learn that our *History* is now in the library at Farmville, for it has long been felt that such a presentation would be most appropriate."

THE LINK: Issued by Central Office and edited by the Secretary-Treasurer,\* the mimeographed *Link* continued its invaluable role of an inter-family communication that transmitted *entre-nous* information and instructions to the membership. The frequency of its issues fluctuated from a schedule of "eight times a year during the school year" in 1928-1933, to four issues a year following the latter convention. In 1935 *The Link* was "issued monthly"; by 1936 it was again published "eight times" annually. The mailing list was increased to cover national and province officers, college and alumnæ chapters, committee members, advisers and interested alumnæ. As costs mounted with the lengthening mailing list, a small subscription fee for alumnæ was first announced in 1933.

THE CHAIN: "The sparkling little newspaper published daily throughout convention" has already been mentioned in the convention accounts of this decade. It was a feature of each of the four national conventions. By the time of the California conclave it was a well-illustrated, slick-paper product with new columns and features. Swampscott's "sea food and journalism" Volume VII continued the professional type of convention news coverage in a four-column paper 10½ by 14 inches in size.

\* Bernice Kirkham Terry from 1928-1933, and May E. Youngberg from 1933 on.



**THE SONGS OF ZETA TAU ALPHA:** When the first edition of the songbook was exhausted in 1930, a second printing of 1,000 copies was immediately made, "the new edition being exactly like the old except that a lovely color plate of our coat-of-arms has been inserted as a flyleaf, and a more attractive frontispiece . . . substituted for the old." Miriam Keast Brown, Sigma, continued as chairman and Sigma Association published the book, Grand Chapter announcing that the Sigma group might "continue to handle the sale . . . in the future as in the past."

Sigma responded graciously, expressing appreciation, but believing that "an organ had been established of which the fraternity may well be proud," the gallant group felt that "when the second edition was exhausted the profits and management should succeed to Central Office." So it became their "pleasure to turn over the songbook plates and copyright to the fraternity." Their only request was to "respectfully suggest that a Sigma girl be retained on the committee."

This was the last songbook published by the fine-spirited Sigma Association, and this second edition lasted through the decade.

**MANUAL FOR ACTIVE AND ALUMNÆ CHAPTERS:** By 1933, improvement noted in the way chapter officers were "handling their work" was credited in large measure to the first<sup>35</sup> general *Manual for Active and Alumnæ Chapters* which appeared in 1932<sup>36</sup>. Compiled by May E. Youngberg after the 1930 convention commissioned the National Inspector to prepare such a manual, the blue-backed "official handbook" of 104 pages was a marvel of completeness.

Opening with *The Creed* and the Code of Ethics, the three-page Table of Contents listed fifteen main chapters, divided into many sub-sections. All of them were thoroughly developed. In her 1933 convention report May Youngberg listed them as follows:

The National Panhellenic Congress, History, Our International Organization, Province System, Funds of the Fraternity, National Headquarters, Insignia, Publications, Ritualistic Services, National Altruistic Projects, College Chapters, Alumnæ, The Chapter House, Extension, and the *Themis Manual*.

There were also "models of all of our forms, with instructions for their use." Dogeared copies were mute testimony to the constant use of this valuable manual. In 1933, "five copies were allocated to each college chapter."

The second edition appeared in 1935, when Helen Prophet<sup>37</sup> revised it "with the assistance of the other Grand Chapter members," following that year's convention.

**PLEDGE MANUAL:** The Canadian convention authorized the compilation and publication of a "pledge training manual, to include a discussion of fraternity history, organization, traditions, policies and philanthropies," but the first official "handbook for pledges" was produced in the fourth decade.

"The need of a national [pledge] manual has been repeatedly expressed," the National Inspector, Mildred Spragg Boyd, told the 1930 conclave, "and to that end I have worked out a manual as a suggested outline for the incoming Grand Chapter." This *Pledge Manual*,<sup>38</sup> by Mildred Boyd, ushered in a new era of uniform pledge training\* when it appeared in 1932. Each pledge was required to own one.

The second, revised edition† appeared late in 1935 after Helen Prophet, the 1933-1935 National Inspector, brought it up-to-date with convention legislation. Six by nine inches in size, the strikingly designed gray-bound, turquoise-lettered forty-page *Manual* appropriately pictured the pledge pin in the upper left-hand corner. Some of the twenty-four subjects listed in the index had many sub-topics under them. *The Creed* of Zeta Tau Alpha, which opened the manual, was prefaced by a foreword:

That you, the pledges of Zeta Tau Alpha, may gain a more complete knowledge of your fraternity and of the whole Greek-letter world, this book is presented. May your study be interesting and profitable to you as an individual, to your chapter, and to the international organization to which you have pledged yourself.

Thus, the *Pledge Manual* as a necessary training adjunct was permanently established in this decade.

**ZETA FACTS:** When the mimeographed sixteen-page "Facts for Rushing," written by Shirley Krieg (Strout) appeared in August, 1932, it was Zeta's first rushing manual and a footnote announced that it was "written for national distribution by special request of the Grand President, Bertha Cruse Gardner, and authorized by Grand Chapter."

A "confidential compilation for the exclusive use of Zeta Tau Alpha," it covered every phase of rushing, from techniques to Zeta and Greek world information. And it had a seven-page "Do You Know—" section that was a ready-made basis for a rushing booklet. Both Grand Chapter and the Finance Committee promptly recognized that fact and authorized the preparation of the first rushing booklet, *Zeta Facts*, which appeared at the 1933 convention, in the specified "handy" size of 4½ by 6 inches.

This first rushing booklet of twenty-seven printed pages included forty-seven well-developed "facts" and six pages devoted to names and chapters of highest current interest. Everything from information on founding and early days to

\* Prior to this, each chapter had its own pledge manual. "Realizing the importance of every chapter printing a manual of instructions for its pledges, I have emphasized this feature of pledge training and have worked out innumerable manuals for chapters not having them," Mildred Boyd reported in 1930. "Practically every chapter now has a manual for its pledges."

† In the summer of 1934, Helen Prophet "revised and brought the *Pledge Manual* up-to-date," mimeographed corrections being sent to the chapters to serve until the printing of the second edition the following year.

size, funds, publications, houses, awards, philanthropy, Central Office, N.P.C., et cetera, was covered in the numbered-paragraph "facts."

Bound in a beautiful blue cover with silver lettering and the coat-of-arms in silver, the first-page introduction gave the keynote:

#### INTRODUCTION

If it is axiomatic that knowledge is power, it is equally true that knowledge is also a source and builder of pride. So, the Zeta Tau Alpha who is familiar with facts in this condensed primer of knowledge should be a Zeta well-founded in the information necessary to a well-versed member.

Therefore, to the purpose of inspirational information, this booklet of facts is dedicated.

Shirley Kresan Krieg  
Grand Editor-Historian

The original printing of 500 copies went quickly and by 1937 the author reported "revising and arranging for reprints of *Zeta Facts* in 1935" (second edition) and 1936 (the third and last edition of 1,000 copies).

The dark blue, handier-sized reprint (3½ by 6 inches), had a redesigned cover, with the same silver lettering and the arms in silver. Thirty-five pages and smaller type made it a fulsome booklet, considerably improved and amplified in content. By request it opened with *The Creed of Zeta Tau Alpha*. Then fifty-one facts unfolded. Ten pages were devoted to members of current interest. *Zeta Facts* was a comprehensive and well-used implement of rushing during that decade.

**PUBLICITY MANUAL:** "Written and issued" by the National Director of Publicity, a pre-1933 work, "Publicity and How to Get It," was the predecessor of the first printed *Publicity Manual*,\* which was in general and very active use well before the 1935 convention.

"This publicity *Manual*," said the Director,

has been prepared on the premise that accurate, interesting news-mention of a constructive, educational nature is desired by Zeta Tau Alpha and its branch units—the active and alumnæ chapters. It has been prepared, also, on the premise that in order to secure the desired amount of the right type of publicity, that publicity must be systematically and intelligently organized, and then guided and directed. . . .

The eleven-page white *Manual* 5½ by 8½ inches in size was a "complete craft manual." In addition to a detailed preliminary consideration of publicity, it contained fully developed chapters on

Zeta Tau Alpha's Publicity Plan, What Is Publicity?, Ways to Get News, and News Writing, Mechanics of Copy Preparation, Pictures, Radio Publicity, Working Tools and the Library of Information, Active Chapters, Types of Stories, National Press Releases, Alumnæ Publicity, Publicity for Province Conventions and State Days, and a General Conclusion.

\* Both were written by Shirley Krieg (Strout).



Although small, separate manuals were very handy and convenient for chapter officers and individuals, a consolidation plan was deemed advisable, so in 1937 the Director reported preparing "a revised edition for incorporation as Chapter V of the general *Manual for Active and Alumnæ Chapters*." This craft manual, "which took up nine pages in the new general *Manual*, is very complete, and serves as a text for Zeta publicity chairmen. The foreword stresses its purpose and also emphasizes that the type of publicity in a given territory must necessarily be governed by, or adapted to, local custom, regulation, tradition or Panhellenic ruling."

**ETIQUETTE COMPILATION:** Zeta Tau Alpha's own etiquette compilation, especially planned for the fraternity woman and covering correct form in personal and chapter life, was published early in 1930. Said Catharine Beverley in her 1928 report:

An etiquette compilation which will, we believe, assist chapters in making their social contacts, has been compiled by Phyllis Randall, Alpha Kappa, and approved with additions by Grand Chapter, and will be published by the incoming Grand Chapter.

The neat little gray-bound book of ninety-seven pages—5½" by 7½" in size—had turquoise lettering and fourteen well-developed chapters on (1) Introductions, (2) Conversation, (3) Manners in Public Places, (4) Visiting Cards and Visits, (5) Invitations and Their Responses, (6) The House and the Hostess, (7) Afternoon Teas, (8) Dinners, (9) Luncheons and Breakfasts, (10) Table Manners, (11) the Dance, (12) Weddings, (13) Poise and Dress, (14) Travel.

The Introduction told its purpose and *raison d'être*:

To make people feel happy and comfortable is the height of good breeding. Mrs. Price Post says, "Best society is not fellowship of the wealthy, nor does it seek to exclude those who are not of exalted birth; but it is an association of gentlefolk, of which good form in speech, charm of manner, knowledge of the social amenities, and instinctive consideration of the social amenities, and instinctive consideration for the feelings of others, are the credentials by which society the world over recognizes its chosen members."

We go to college to gain a higher education. That education includes not only an understanding of certain subjects in the curriculum, but also the ability to make and keep friends. Those who belong to fraternities should get something from them besides loyal friends: "knowledge of the social amenities."

Because nearly every chapter, in some manner or other, has expressed a desire for a condensed book on etiquette, applicable to fraternity life, this book has been compiled.

Zeta Tau Alpha was one of the few Greek groups to have an etiquette book of its own—indeed, it may have been the only one—and this was the only one the fraternity ever had. Highly useful in its day and considered a valuable addition to Zeta's publications, changing practices eventually took their toll of social usages, too.

The book's preparation was the outgrowth of the author's chapter experience as etiquette chairman, when she "discovered how complicated it was to look up

the proper form or custom in the accepted books on etiquette." So she worked out a condensed version especially applicable to the college girl.

**DIRECTORY:** This decade saw a re-evaluation of the directory that resulted in its eventual discontinuance. During the depression its financing was a factor but overshadowing that was the futility, if not the impossibility, of keeping up with the name and address changes of a marrying and moving membership that rendered a directory out-of-date before it was off the press. And as the membership soared into the thousands, the impracticability of the task became evident.

Priced at \$1, the sixth edition of the directory (1898-1930, and the fourth to be published in book form), came off the press after the West Baden convention. The largest directory that Zeta had ever published, the gray-backed book with blue lettering was 5¼ by 7½ inches in size, and contained 450 pages, including an In Memoriam listing.

Said Bernice Kirkham Terry, the officer in charge, in the preface:

Thousands of letters were sent out in an effort to verify letters and . . . locate Zetas . . . on the "lost list." . . . The plan used in former editions has been followed, i.e., chapter lists are filed by married names, the alphabetical list gives the complete name—married name with maiden name following. Permanent home addresses are used. Transfers are listed with their original chapters. (The geographical list was by married name.)

Six other prefacing pages contained a brief sketch of the fraternity, "general information," the names of Grand Chapter, a directory of "provinces and their presidents," a table of contents and the college chapter roll. Inactive chapters (eight, including the short-lived Original Beta) were so indicated and listed together.

In 1933, Central Office "was making an effort to sell those on hand before [a] new one is published in 1934, as required by the constitution." But the 1934 Grand Chapter meeting voted not to issue a directory that year and further "recommended that the directory be published in the future at the direction of Grand Chapter, rather than at stated intervals." The 1935 convention ratified their recommendation. Because of the practical aspects just mentioned, no other directory was published in this decade.

**HEALTH CENTER BROCHURE:** Of the twenty-five page Health Center brochure that saw wide distribution and use, *Themis* said:

The attractive blue booklets bearing the . . . coat-of-arms stamped in silver, that made their appearance at the West Baden convention were found to contain the full history of Health Center from the date of founding to the present (1930). Beautifully arranged, the booklet is profusely illustrated with interesting pictures and tells a vivid, concise story of Zeta Tau Alpha's work in the mountains of Virginia.

The foreword was by Frances Yancey Smith, chairman of the National

Philanthropic Committee, and the Grand Editor-Historian, who compiled and edited the brochure. It was 6¼ by 9¼ inches in size.

**MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES AND SEALS:** Membership certificates became available for the first time in this decade, but not without years of preliminary skirmishing.

Dating back to early conventions these certificates were debated pro and con with spirit and volumes of outpoured words. But the pros never won until the 1933 convention, when the matter was resolved with the adoption of Delta province's membership certificate as the fraternity's official one. And the round blue and silver seals (bearing the coat-of-arms) presented by Delta province were also adopted as official.

The start made, the next record was of the adoption of "the membership certificate sketch designed by the official jeweler [with] a blue and silver coat-of-arms and silver seal." By 1934 Central Office was to sell "only unframed membership certificates . . . the members to select their own frames," and the next convention learned that "the sale of seals and membership certificates had been put into practice."

**SERVICE BOOKS:** In this period the Service Book contained the following services: Initiation, Ritual, Founders' Day Service, Installation of Officers. The Pledge Service was in a separate book. Other services of the period were the Alumnæ Initiation Service, the Memorial Service, used at conventions, a Funeral Service for members (adopted in 1937), a Mothers' Club Initiation Service and a Patroness Service.

In addition to the above, this decade produced an unprecedented volume of various types of valuable instructional works, from such things as handbooks for province officers and coorganizers, to an inspection manual, to name a few.

### *Publicity*

Recognized as an integral part of the fraternity's framework and functioning, publicity came of age in this decade.

For several years the Editor's reports had contained sections on publicity, but in 1933 the position of National Director of Publicity was officially added to her duties, and in 1935 the subject was covered in its own separate report.

Zeta's "first definite publicity program designed for nation-wide coverage and scope" was adopted at that convention after several months' previous try-out. A system of press releases<sup>39</sup> was inaugurated (the first in the N.P.C. world), and a *Publicity Manual* was issued. Chapters were required to have publicity chairmen.



The program’s purpose was dual-faceted: informational as far as Zeta was concerned, and generally educational. The Director put it this way:

Organizations today, a survey reveals, are definitely turning their attention, not so much to publicity designed to secure more newspaper mention, or space, for their own groups but to publicity or educational information designed [actually] to be educational to the lay world on fraternities and the achievements of Greek folk, and to counteract the wrong kind of publicity about them [now] generally conceded to be too prevalent in the press. In other words, directed publicity giving information designed to be of benefit not only to Zeta Tau Alpha but to the whole system, hoping to correct the incorrect by presenting the correct.

This span of years saw extensive development in the area of publicity, in techniques, activity and understanding, and its established use as a legitimate, necessary tool of correct information, which, when handled rightly, can have dignity and be respect-compelling.

*Endowment and Loan Funds*

THE NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND celebrated its silver anniversary in 1937. In observing it, the March issue of *Themis* said:

Inaugurated twenty-five years ago, this fund has . . . assisted scores of girls in securing a college education. Many receive loans each year, but the highest record was reached from June, 1930, to November, 1932, when fifty-seven girls received loans totalling \$20,995. Loans from August, 1930, to July 1, 1933, aggregated \$33,855, with 102 girls as beneficiaries.

As is obvious, this was the period of heaviest demands on the fund<sup>40</sup>—a not surprising development considering the economic years involved.

The following table shows the complete loan record of the 1912-1937 span of years:

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

| Date                                     | Number<br>of Loans | Total<br>Amount | Average<br>Loan |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| To Convention 1915                       | 2                  | \$ 85.00        | \$ 43.00        |
| To Convention 1919                       | 6                  | 500.00          | 83.00           |
| To Convention 1923                       | 20                 | 3,115.00        | 155.00          |
| To Convention 1926                       | 63                 | 14,471.00       | 229.00          |
| To Convention 1928                       | 40                 | 12,325.00       | 308.00          |
| To Convention 1930                       | 39                 | 13,150.00       | 336.00          |
| To Convention 1933                       | 64                 | 22,245.00       | 347.00          |
| To Convention 1935                       | 16                 | 3,825.00        | 239.00          |
| To Convention 1937                       | 16                 | 3,355.00        | 210.00          |
| Convention, 1937, through December, 1937 | 6                  | 1,550.00        | 258.00          |
|  | 272                | \$74,621.00     |                 |

The tradition of each member earning her yearly contribution was continued and in 1937 the President urged the chapters "to place emphasis on it." Non-Zetas continued to be eligible for loans.

Freshman scholarships were "included in the administrative policy of this time," said the 1936 Grand Chapter meeting, as were coorganizer scholarships.

**FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY FUND:** "In this, our fortieth anniversary year," the November, 1938 *Themis* said, "Grand Chapter announces the creation of a Fiftieth Anniversary Fund" with a threefold purpose: "special expenses in connection with the golden anniversary; a memorial to be placed at Farmville, Virginia, in 1948; and the general advancement of the fraternity's welfare." The year 1948 would see the fulfillment of the first two. The third was the permanent one under whose banner the fund would continue to function after 1948's observances were over.

The first two purposes were self-explanatory. The third was something new.

Planned as a contingent fund, the Fiftieth Anniversary Fund\* permanently commemorated the reaching of the mid-century mark, and Zeta's action corresponded to that of many Greek groups who had established anniversary funds named after the half-century milestone. Other fraternity funds were constitutionally restricted in their uses. This new fund carried no such restrictions. It could be used for any purpose interpreted as promoting the fraternity's welfare. It was broad, and meant to be so.

Birthday pennies requested for the first time at the 1938 Founders' Day observances were a hoped-for source of revenue. "Donations were welcomed," but the "painless sources of income already put into operation were: a national magazine agency and a national travel agency." Gathering war-clouds imperiled the latter and eventually eliminated it, but the former developed promisingly with the years.

The new fund was launched just as the decade ended—its development fell to the next one.

**THEMIS ENDOWMENT FUND:** The 1933 convention changed former procedure and practices by specifying the fund's investment exclusively in government bonds. Correlatively, subsequent magazine listings omitted the former Themis Endowment Trustees' section, convention's action having obviated further appointments.

**THE PHILANTHROPIC ENDOWMENT FUND** with its self-explanatory name—to endow the fraternity's altruistic work—was set up in 1930.

\* Later renamed the Golden Anniversary Fund.

THE HOUSE LOAN FUND became an independent fund in this decade. A 1929 transfer of funds† from the General Fund provided the start. Income allocations were provided for it in the budget. In 1933 the provision for the use of one-third of the Themis Endowment Fund was dropped.

THE MAUD JONES HORNER SCHOLARSHIP GIFT, established in 1928 and reaffirmed at each convention, was continued in its status quo during this decade. The \$100 scholarship, given yearly to a student at the Virginia State Teachers College, was handled by the college and listed in its catalogue.

HOPKINS FUND:<sup>41</sup> The establishment of the Dr. May Agness Hopkins Scholarship at the University of Texas was featured in the March, 1931 issue of *Themis*, the first award<sup>42</sup> being announced by the Grand President.

Dormant for many years, accrued interest from advantageous investment increased the fraternity's original 1923 gift of \$3,000 to over \$5,000. The yearly interest became \$300, sufficient for a scholarship grant. When Texas, her Alma Mater, established the Foundation for Child Welfare and Parent Education, Dr. Hopkins saw in it the fulfillment of a dream and she moved "at once . . . to give a graduate scholarship in the department of the new foundation," she wrote in *Themis*. She took her plans to the 1930 convention. Receiving "its stamp of approval," correspondence began, and "it soon became possible to make the first award of the graduate scholarship in the Foundation of Child Welfare and Parent Education," her message concluded.

The University catalogue said in part:

The . . . award is based upon financial need, sound scholarship and special aptitude in the field of child development. . . . After 1932-33, this scholarship will become a fellowship for the purpose of promoting higher education and research in the field of development, and will be open to graduate students only.

A committee of three, of which Dr. Hopkins was one, made the award.

### *Health Center*

Said the foreword to the 1930 Health Center brochure:

Inspired by the desire to help those to whom life had been less generous, to extend the hand of service to those outside its membership . . . and to embark upon a philanthropic project worthily and appropriately honoring the fraternity's Founders, Zeta Tau Alpha, at the eleventh national convention . . . selected Currin Valley, Smyth County, Virginia, as the location for its permanent altruistic work. The chosen site not only afforded a golden opportunity to help a worthy, neglected people but it also permitted the work to be located in the home state of the fraternity.

† This was for \$15,000.





The First Headquarters in 1928



THE FIREPLACE in the later day cabin, showing the Zeta coat of arms over the mantel, and the well filled book shelves on either side.

Months before President Hoover's summer camp in the Rapidan district focused attention on the Virginia mountains and inspired a stream of stories about its mountaineers, Zeta Tau Alpha began its humanitarian work among a "forgotten people" in their "forgotten mountains." Those stories were eagerly read by Zeta Tau Alphas, for conditions in Currin Valley were much like those in the Rapidan section.

The press of the nation told of a people who lived within 100 miles of the nation's capital, but had never heard of it; people who had never seen the American flag or heard "America" sung. Astonished readers learned about a people of purest Anglo-Saxon blood, who still spoke Elizabethan English with many of its crudities, and who were primitive, illiterate and backward almost beyond belief.

They had lived in their mountains "since always." Their ancestors just "dropped off" in the secluded mountain hollows when the immigrant trains trekked westward following the War of 1812. With the passing of time they became engulfed, eking out a miserable existence, intermarrying, receding farther and farther away from the civilization advancing around them but not touching them.

Home was usually a cabin that was not much of an improvement over those of the first settlers, or a "one room and lean-to" rudely constructed, windowless shack with almost no furniture and a dirt floor.<sup>43</sup> Families of four, five, to twelve "managed" in this space, subsisting mainly on soggy corn bread and half-cooked sow-belly. Lethargic, and apathetic toward their plight, they had no cow, no chickens, no garden. They planted a bit of a crop, some corn and potatoes to "scratch up" a living and let it go at that. And there were stills in those mountains. Many families were squatters and those who lived in the Valley were poor farmers, depending largely upon the killing of game for food.

A yearly income of from ten to fifteen dollars (ten dollars was average)



Reproduction of a postcard widely used about midway in the decade.

The ZTA Nurse and Sally I. Winter and a typical experience—almost at the end of the trail-road so common in that mountain region. This picture appeared in the May, 1930, *Themis*.



came largely from the sale of herbs, for which there was a short season and poor pay. But every plant in the mountains seemed to be a “yarb.” “Odd jobs,” which the men performed, were neither plentiful nor profitable. There were no amusements except church-going—if there was a church—and funerals. They loved funerals. Anyone living as far away as the next “holler” was a “furriner”—to be regarded with suspicion. Their speech was a language of its own, difficult for an outsider to understand. Sometimes they had only the clothes on their backs.

Understanding neither play nor cooperation, the children sat and stared into space—silent, observing, inscrutable. Recess time—if there was a school—was often spent in fighting.

Zeta’s aim was to help these people to help themselves—to arouse in them the desire for improvement that could come only if they desired it. Zeta’s beginning, through their health problems, was felt to be a logical approach in helping an unlearned people who, in sickness and daily life, turned to superstitious practices and such cure-alls as catnip tea.

Zeta’s first nurse was sent into the Valley in December, 1928, during an influenza epidemic, when her ministrations were desperately needed among a



people largely without medical aid—even for “bornin’s.” A little white cottage, generously lent to the fraternity, served as headquarters at Attoway, “five miles back from Marion.”

The next headquarters was the picturesque log cabin three miles from Marion, which was formally dedicated on October 10, 1929, with appropriate ceremonies and laying of the cornerstone. On the dedication program were Bertha Cruse Gardner, Grand President, whose donation of funds made possible the cabin’s erection; Frances Yancey Smith, Founder, chairman of the Philanthropic Committee from its inception; the Health Center nurse, and the Reverend Kenneth Killinger, a mountain missionary who deeded the land.<sup>44</sup> Over 300 people came from all parts of the mountains to attend the celebration, and the wiener roast following.

### THE EVOLUTION OF HEALTH CENTER



The Log Cabin Health Center  
in 1931  
A stark winter picture.

Shrubs and vines were growing and the sharp slope in front of the cabin was being cultivated when this picture was taken a little later.





Thereafter the log-cabin<sup>45</sup> Health Center served as headquarters for a public health nurse who travelled over an ever-expanding territory in a car<sup>46</sup> bearing the Greek initials ZTA. Almost immediately the work went beyond Currin Valley, extending into districts miles away.

And soon there was a sign at the entrance to Health Center, as well as one at the turn of the road in Marion.

The distrust with which "furriners" was regarded would ordinarily have meant a long period of "inching in" to gain the confidence of the mountain folk, but this was overcome in part for the Zeta nurse by the sponsorship of the local missionary, who had spent his life among them.

By 1930 the Health Center staff consisted of the nurse and a housekeeper. A garage and springhouse were built before 1931,<sup>47</sup> numerous additions and improvements were made to the cabin,<sup>48</sup> while native shrubs and flowers beautified the grounds, much of it the work of the nurse, or of her inspiration.

From the start, this work in Virginia captured the imagination of the membership, and they took it to their hearts. It had great appeal.

By mid-decade an account said that

Since the first Health Center nurse, "went in" the mountains, she has been busy with [multitudinous] duties including everything from officiating at "bornin's," to making calls at all hours of the day or night to the little shack-homes anywhere along the difficult mountain trails, holding tonsil, dental, anti-typhoid, tubercular and pre-school clinics and toothbrush drills, inspecting hundreds of school children, attending to those coming to Health Center for medication (there have been 508 in the past two years), holding classes in Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick, as well as personal hygiene; holding cooking and sewing classes and conducting old-clothes sales.

Since 1929<sup>49</sup> the nurse had made 2,167 visits. By 1930 some 2,148 children had been examined and there had been 3,738 calls for clothing.

A number of patients were cared for in Health Center's limited quarters, as were several babies and children until homes could be found for them.

And layettes by the dozen were sent to Virginia for the ever-abundant, seldom prepared-for crop of babies.

In May, 1934, the philanthropic chairman wrote of the program:

Five years of public health nursing and additional classes in sewing and cooking, together with the summer recreation work, have left their mark on Currin Valley. Children who did not know how to play are now joining readily in the fun. The nurse reports many corrections of physical defects among the school children examined. Maternal health has been protected by pre-natal as well as post-natal care. The death rate among babies has decreased.

The "old-clothes sales" were a story in themselves, but they represented an activity of tremendous assistance to the mountain folk. Alumnæ groups and individual Zetas all over the country sent used clothing (often new, too). Practically everything shippable and usable was sent to Health Center. Much of

it was given away to the destitute, but in order not to pauperize those able to pay, small sums, such as a dime for a pair of shoes, or a nickel for a hat, were charged. The proceeds, which went to Health Center, paid for many an improvement. Many trudged as far as eighteen miles or more to attend the weekly clothing sales upon which so many depended. Scores had decent clothes for the first time in their lives. This was a major activity at Health Center, for a constant stream of bundles and boxes poured in. All were sorted and acknowledged.

Gardens—so desperately needed to augment the meagre food supply and ward off the prevalent diseases of malnutrition<sup>50</sup>—were one of the nurse's first promotions. She set a splendid example with her own fine garden. The Zetas were asked to send seeds. They did—in showers. Contests and cash prizes were offered as added incentives. Persuaded to plant the strange seeds, at first the mountain people brought the curious vegetables to her, refusing to eat "them 'air funny things." In time, though, they were converted—at least to a degree.

Started almost at once, a valuable little library steadily amassed through book donations, reached one thousand volumes in 1935, with its usefulness extended to Currin Valley School and Sugar Grove High School. One month's circulation that year was 315. In 1937 it had 1,500 volumes, and one month's circulation was 856. By the end of the decade the number of volumes had passed the two-thousand mark.

Health Center's Christmas tree was an annual event in the lives of a people who, except for Zeta Tau Alpha, would have had no Christmas, and who, in many instances, had never known any Christmas before the advent of Health Center. It was a tremendously popular party to which hundreds came eagerly, and sometimes a tree and a party were held in other districts as well as at Health Center.

To make this possible, Zetas all over the country contributed money and an array of donations, from toys to groceries. The Christmas rush at Health Center with the preparation of the baskets and gifts was tremendous for weeks before the event.

By mid-decade (from 1929-1933), some 1,107 individuals had been remembered with gifts and necessities, while 130 baskets of food and clothing had been distributed among the needy.

In 1932, one of the blackest years of the depression, there were operating funds for only a few months ahead. Remembering the money-tight days when she was in school, Frances Yancey Smith promptly reminded the fraternity she helped found that, "Zeta Tau Alpha was born and bred when there was a great scarcity of money in our land. We should be able to face together the hard times again." The response was immediate. Of the Christmas celebration that year the nurse wrote: "There never was such a Christmas. Depression forgotten, the gifts poured in. . . ."

In summer, the program was enlarged by the addition of recreational workers (usually Zetas), who conducted classes in cooking, canning, sewing, folk dancing, sports, handcrafts, construction work and allied activities. Attendance at summer sessions totaled about 1,150, and one summer's display of articles made numbered 600. The entire community was interested in the Zeta program. Again, Zetas all over the country sent supplies of all sorts, from old bathing suits, all-tin can containers to materials, patterns, and thread, for the summer work.

Provinces and individuals financed clinics, contributed pieces of medical equipment, linens, bed clothing, everything imaginable,<sup>51</sup> in fact, even canning equipment. And one year, through Zeta dollars promptly dispatched in response to the nurse's call, four little mountain boys were enabled to belong to a 4-H Club and raise four little pigs of their own.

Perhaps nothing is more revealing of the work that kept increasing in scope and territory covered, than a cross-section of statistics through the years. The Pasadena convention learned that

From August 1, 1933, to June 1, 1935, the nurse made 173 prenatal visits, 295 post-partum, and 852 medical calls. Patients taken to doctors numbered 159. Seventy-five babies were delivered by the nurse alone; 21 more with the assistance of doctors.

In 1933, 951 school children were examined, while in 1934 the total reached 1,503; 2,423 persons came to Health Center to buy clothing. There was one dental clinic and 71 tonsillectomies. Twenty patients were accompanied to tuberculosis clinics. Numerous trips were made with patients to the hospitals at Abingdon and Scottsville, each twenty-five miles distant. Some drives were as far as 125 miles away. Many bed linens were loaned and practically all the new-born babies were outfitted with new clothing, either given, or sold for a small sum.

The figures given at Swampscott were:

From June 1, 1935, to April 30, 1937, the nurse made 2,637 calls; 520 came to the office for medical attention; ninety-seven babies were delivered and approximately 2,300 attended the thrift sales, in addition to Health Center's other activities. The first pre-natal clinic was held June 12, 1936; thousands of school children were inspected in twenty-one different schools; the nurse gave talks, and a girls' club was established which became a Girl Scout troop. Some 600 attended the 1935 and 1936 Christmas parties. A six-year old girl lived "at Health Center for months, and then was successfully adopted," while for four months a two-year-old was cared for before she was adopted.

From October, 1937, to October, 1938, visits numbered 1,038. There were 1,306 "visits to carried cases," 101 pre-natal cases were cared for, the nurse delivered twelve babies without a doctor, and eighteen with a doctor. In September and October of 1938, she inspected "eleven schools in our territory, with an enrollment of 850 pupils." The ZTA car also "covered more than 300 miles in trips to dentists" in 1938.

Several Founders' Day observances at Health Center<sup>52</sup> were attended by



visiting officers and members. The first one, in 1934, included a tea for some seventy-five interested friends from Marion and the vicinity. The planting of an evergreen tree in memory of Maud Jones Horner followed the Founders' Day service.

This philanthropy was the special project of the *alumnæ*, financed by their dues, both annual and life, and by donations and gifts. For a time, *alumnæ* chapters were required to make an annual financial contribution, and Health Center Day was the first Saturday in October. This was changed to a December date in 1937, however.

The first chairman heading the National Philanthropic Committee was a Founder, Frances Yancey Smith, with Catharine Binger Beverley, a past Grand President living in Virginia, serving as honorary chairman. After five years of distinguished service, Miss Smith was succeeded, in 1933, by Mabel Slout Weeter, who served devotedly the remainder of the decade.

Although the 1935 convention approved a well worked-out plan for expansion,<sup>53</sup> and the establishment of a second unit at Sugar Grove (then considered "the center of our territory"), various factors and developments prevented those plans from materializing. Thus, the Attoway log cabin was still the headquarters for Zeta's mountain work when the decade ended.

What was the total accomplishment of Zeta's ten years of effort<sup>54</sup> in Virginia?

"To those of us working closely with Health Center it is apparent that our first decade of service has had far-reaching effects in the community," Mabel Weeter assured the 1937 convention, but an observer's summing up was much more emphatic.

"My dear young woman," a dentist of twenty years' local residence told the Health Center nurse one day in 1938, "Zeta Tau Alpha has changed night into day in your community. You can't imagine what things were like when Miss Crosby<sup>55</sup> first started. In your little sphere, you accomplish more than the President."

### *National Panhellenic Congress*

The Grand President, Bertha Cruse Gardner, was Zeta's official delegate<sup>56</sup> to the February, 1930 meeting of the National Panhellenic Congress held<sup>57</sup> in Denver, Colorado. Beta Sigma Omicron and Lambda Omega were admitted to associate membership and the Congress voted to sponsor Pi Sigma Gamma. It also "went on record as endorsing a short rush season instead of deferred rushing and put its stamp of disapproval upon all undue publicity." Zeta's delegate wrote in *Themis*: "N.P.C. also reaffirmed its agreement with educational fraternities not to enter the field of the Normal Schools and Teachers' Colleges and requested the educational fraternities to respect the rights of N.P.C. fraternities in other college fields."

When the twenty-second biennial session of N.P.C. met in St. Louis, Missouri, October 27-30, 1931,<sup>58</sup> Bertha Gardner was again Zeta's official representative, and the Editor-Historian,<sup>59</sup> Shirley Krieg (Strout), was the alternate delegate. Visiting delegates were Finance Committee members Ethel Cruse Mouton and Leone Peele Ramsey, while Adelaide Hazeltine (Jones), Mu, was also listed.

The new National President, Dorothy Swaney Hillix, was Zeta's official delegate at the October, 1933 session held in Chicago scarcely two months after the fraternity's August convention. Shirley Krieg Strout, the alternate delegate, became chairman of the N.P.C. Editors' Conference at this meeting.<sup>60</sup> May E. Youngberg was a visiting delegate.

Beta Sigma Omicron and Phi Omega Pi, who were admitted to full membership at this time, became N.P.C.'s twenty-second and twenty-third members. Lambda Omega's merger with Theta Upsilon was announced, as was Sigma Phi Beta's with Phi Omega Pi.

Zeta Tau Alpha's entire Grand Chapter and the new Field Secretary were at the Edgewater Gulf Hotel, Edgewater Park, Mississippi, when the National Panhellenic Congress met in December, 1935. Dorothy Hillix was the official delegate. Betty Ott, Helen Prophet, May Youngberg and Shirley Krieg Strout were the other Grand Chapter members present. Marjorie Glasson Ross was the visiting Field Secretary.

The quota<sup>61</sup> system was discussed for the first time when the committee on College Panhellenics reported on its survey of this new plan "employed by many colleges" . . . as a means "of dealing with the unequal size of pledge groups."

Presiding over the Editors' Conference was Shirley Krieg Strout,<sup>62</sup> who also had been appointed the previous summer by Gladys Pugh Redd, chairman of N.P.C., to direct the publicity of the twenty-fourth Congress. This was the first time in the Congress' twenty-two years of existence that a Zeta editor had been chairman. It was also the first time in N.P.C.'s history that an editor had been asked to take charge of the publicity.

Elected National President at the Swampscott convention, Louise Kettler Helper was Zeta's official delegate to the twenty-fifth N.P.C. held in October, 1937, at Beekman Tower Hotel, in New York City. Since "an important N.P.C. assignment still needed to be carried to fulfillment by the delegate who had been working on it," the retiring President, Dorothy Hillix, was present to give that report. Other officers in attendance were Lucile Reece Roberts, May Youngberg and Shirley Krieg Strout.<sup>63</sup>

This Congress went on record as reaffirming its approval of a limitation of chapter size. Of Zeta Tau Alpha's feeling on the subject the November-December, 1937 *Link* said:

Your national officers believe in a limitation of chapter size everywhere—where our

chapters are large as well as where they are smaller. A huge variation in chapter size on any campus is unhealthy and is detrimental to the welfare of the whole fraternity system.

Zeta Tau Alpha was to maintain that position quite consistently beyond this decade. And this was the last decade in which the President always served as the official delegate.

### *Awards*

Convention's most important award of the future was announced at the concluding banquet of the Swampscott convention by the donor, Dorothy Swaney Hillix, the retiring Grand President. The new Grand Chapter award (so named at her request) was to go "to the chapter showing the greatest amount of progress in those things which make for 'real fraternity' in chapter and college life." Points to be considered were: "scholarship, activities, fraternity and inter-fraternity relationships, the latter to include relations with national officers, with chapter alumnae, general chapter organization and satisfactory inter-fraternity relations." The award was to be presented for the first time at the next convention—the first in the fifth decade.

Honor rings were awarded at the four national conventions to: 1930—Mildred Spragg (Boyd), Theta-Alpha Zeta; Lucile Douglas (Clark), Psi; Alice Porter (Moore), Zeta; Julia Miller (Emhardt), Alpha Delta; Jeanette Bertram (Chapman), Alpha Eta; Mabel Slout (Weeter), Beta Lambda; Katherine Alexander (Johnson), Alpha Eta; Pauline Dillon (Gragg), Alpha Kappa; Ann Harbinson (Helmer), Omicron; Virginia Sellers (Webb), Zeta; Helen M. Harrison, Xi.

1933—Lucile Miles (Holt), Delta; Leone Peel (Ramsey), Epsilon; Mildred Snowden (Smith), Xi; May E. Youngberg, Alpha Phi; Eleanor Drysdale (Hewitt), Alpha Gamma; Patricia Lamb (Teague), Beta Kappa; Clara Slade, Beta Eta; Helen Kagay (Prophet), Alpha Gamma; Dorothy Swaney (Hillix), Theta; Olga Smith, Alpha Iota; Ruth Grow (Walker), Beta Epsilon; Dorothy Kvinlog (Hallberg), Psi; Ada Swigart (Hess), Beta Alpha.

1935—Elizabeth Steinhauer (Ott), Beta Delta; Maude Rousseau, Beta Eta; Grace Harper, Beta Epsilon; Louise Kettler (Helper), Kappa; Willabelle Harper (Hoyt), Alpha Gamma; Alice Lee Swain (Winberg), Epsilon; Lillian Short (Morse), Mu; Beatrice Clephane, Beta Alpha.

1937—Katherine Comley, Alpha Xi; Honor Gregory (House), Alpha Delta; Marjorie Glasson (Ross), Phi; Olivia Watkins (Leatherman), Beta Alpha; Vinita Smith (Simpson), Tau-Alpha Kappa.

Other convention awards of this period included a scholarship cup, the scholarship medallion,\* crested bookends (given in 1935 and 1937) for individual scholarship, wall plaques to chapters ranking first in scholarship, and an array of awards offered for convention exhibits and events.

\* Not awarded after the 1930 convention.



*Customs, Traditions and Policies*

Many of this period's traditions were a reiteration of those found in Volume II of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha* (1929), but others were added. All Zetas knew that

Zeta Tau Alpha is known as a fraternity, not as a sorority.

Zeta Tau Alpha favors a conservative policy of extension.

Chapters sing the Zeta Prayer before dinner. Chapters observe the best social procedure always in the chapter dining-room, and in acting as hostesses.

Good form within the fraternity dictates that members be spoken of as Zeta Tau Alphas or Zetas, not as ZTAs—never as Zeta Taus.

There is no standardization of type in Zeta Tau Alpha.

Zeta Tau Alpha shields and carpenters' squares are worn over the heart. The badge is never used for a utilitarian purpose, and no other pin (except a chapter guard) is ever chained to it or worn above it. Each initiate owns a badge.

Only initiated members use the coat-of-arms.

Each pledge has a pledge mother or sponsor.

Only Zetas are permitted in the house during initiation.

Each chapter has an initiation banquet.

At the time of an installation the new chapter receives a greeting from each Zeta chapter.

One or more members of Grand Chapter always officiate at an installation.

The badge is not used for decorative purposes, or reproduced except in college annuals.

The use of the heraldic shield (as found in the coat-of-arms) is recommended where a shield is desired.

Chapters wear black ribbons under their pins for three days when a member of the chapter dies. There is a memorial service at convention for those who have passed on.

Model initiation, with a Grand Chapter initiate, is a traditional high light of conventions.

Honor rings are awarded at each convention to alumnae who have performed distinctive service for the fraternity since leaving college.

The Founders' Day service is given when each chapter observes Founders' Day on October 15. (After 1933, pledges were permitted to attend the service.) Chapters send greetings to the individual Founders on this day, and the Grand President's Founders' Day Proclamation is read.

On April 1, National Scholarship Day, each Zeta contributes one dollar to the National Scholarship Fund.

Zetas never speak disparagingly of other fraternities or their members.

Zetas never criticize the fraternity or its members in the presence of non-Zetas.

The fraternity discountenances "rough" or "mock" pre-initiation horseplay or Hell Week.

The word "frat," long-taboo in Greek circles, is never used.

Because of Zeta's Virginian birth, Colonial, Georgian, Early American and related periods of architecture are considered especially appropriate and desirable for Zeta houses.

In an era when visiting officers often received flowers, candy and gifts from other groups, the policy "that engraved cards bearing the Zeta Tau Alpha coat-of-arms be sent to visiting inspectors of other fraternities instead of gifts" had clear meaning.

Until 1933, when that section of the Zeta Tau Alpha House Standards was

repealed, the fraternity "discountenanced smoking in chapter houses," and it was so stated in the *Manual* as well as in many other places.

In the realm of rushing: "A college chapter will not pledge a rushee when officially requested not to by an alumnae chapter," and "a chapter rushing a girl who has transferred from another college where there is a Zeta chapter must consult that chapter before the girl is pledged."

The 1930 convention exempted the Founders from the payment of dues, and that exemption was placed on record.

The constitution following the 1933 convention defined the status of national honorary members\* as "women who are unable to qualify as active college members, but who have done outstanding work or rendered outstanding service to the fraternity." The West Baden (1930) conclave tightened up the 1928 convention's qualification by stipulating that honorary initiates be college women, while the status of those who had been asked to be Grand Chapter initiates was defined as that of a pledge.

Grand Chapter initiates at the national conventions were: (1935) Julia Prindle (Nelson); (1937) Faith Baldwin, Ellen Raedy. There was none at the 1930\*\* and 1933 conventions.

When Zeta Tau Alpha was thirty-one years old, a little group of Zetas met in Farmville not only to observe Founders' Day but to initiate Parke Leigh Orgain, daughter of Ruby Leigh Orgain, the only daughter in the Founders' group. The initiation, in which five Founders joined, was held in the original building of the then Virginia State Teachers' College, on October 15, 1929. Parke Leigh was initiated with her mother's pin, and Ruby had the joy of pinning it on.

The initiation service was conducted by Bertha Cruse Gardner, Grand President, who arranged the event, assisted by five Founders: Ruby Leigh Orgain, Frances Yancey Smith, Della Lewis Hundley, Ethel Coleman Van Name and Alice Coleman; Catharine Bingler Beverley, past-Grand President, and the following members of Alpha chapter: Mary Coleman, Jessie Whitmore Booker, Grace Elcan Garnett, Harriet Bugg Duval; Emma Waring Long.

After the pledging and initiation ceremonies, Mrs. Gardner invited the group to join her around the tea table. The day ended with "reminiscences and impressions from our Founders—the honor guests," she wrote in *Themis*.

### *The Fortieth Anniversary*

Fortieth anniversary plans went out to college and alumnae chapters in August, 1938, when they received a long letter giving members the latest news about each Founder and detailing suggested plans for special functions and

\* This did not apply to Grand Chapter initiates at conventions.

\*\* A pledge of Delta chapter was the West Baden convention's model initiate.

observances. With it† was enclosed a special anniversary message from the Founders and also the President's annual Founders' Day Proclamation.

For the Founders, Ruby Leigh Orgain wrote:

### Founders' Greetings

(For the 40th Anniversary Celebration)

Little did the nine of us, gathered together forty years ago, realize that the sweet little seeds of love, friendship and loyalty we planted then would blossom into 11,000 lovely flowers, forty years hence; flowers of fragrance as perfect as our own white violet.

For the Founders, I greet you warmly, and I want to say sincerely: We feel greatly indebted to the harvest reaped from those precious seeds, for the many contacts made; the hearty greetings and kind wishes sent during the various seasons have brought us much happiness and made me appreciate more fully Browning's lines:

Grow old along with me!  
The best is yet to be,  
The last of life, for which the first was made;  
Our times are in His hand  
Who saith, "A whole I planned,  
Youth shows but half; trust God:  
See all, nor be afraid!"

Ruby Leigh Orgain  
*Secretary of the Founders*

"On this, the eve of our fortieth anniversary," the National Historian wrote, "we can be happy that we have with us eight of the original nine—eight of the most closely knit Founders of which any organization can boast. Since 1924 they have had their own organization, with Ruby Leigh Orgain acting as secretary. They also have a yearly round-robin."

The commemorative fortieth anniversary issue of *Themis* (November, 1938) was nostalgic and memory-inducing, yet completely up-to-date. Quoting its "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny" introduction:

Can't you close your eyes and hear the generations who have sung it—"Carry Me Back to Old Virginny"? . . . For, in old Virginny is where we long to be, on this, Zeta Tau Alpha's fortieth anniversary, and in memory that is where *Themis* wants to transport you. . . . Bits of the past, a panoramic view of the years, a tribute to a departed Founder, today's messages from the Founders—all, we hope, will bring you a happy blending of the past and present as Zetas everywhere gather to commemorate this anniversary.

Every bit of the past of Zeta Tau Alpha is covered in minutest detail in our two-volume *History*, so *Themis* at this time presents not a revision of already printed facts but fresh and new communications from our Founders and early Alpha members, since 1898 and Zeta Tau Alpha are inseparable from Alpha chapter. Some have sent delightful vignettes

† A general newstory (one of Zeta's press releases) was also enclosed. It covered this "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," and, in urging proper coverage, reminded the membership that "we won't ever be forty years old again."



of their early lives. All have been deeply interested and cooperative. . . . Some wrote under the handicap of illness—but all sent their love and perpetual gratitude, even wonder, to all who in any way, helped make their fledgling of 1898 into the strong, powerful organization it is today. . . . And now we give you the memories of Alpha members of long ago; the Founders as they are today. Zetas—Our Fortieth Anniversary.

The Founders loved being snowed under with greetings, as hundreds of Zetas all over the country observed the same anniversary and paused for a moment to realize the great national strength surging from ties of unity and pride.

### Roster of Officers

#### 1928-1930

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Grand President .....           | Bertha Cruse (Gardner), <i>Beta</i>            |
| Grand Vice-President .....      | Bruce Houston (Davis), <i>Alpha</i>            |
| Grand Secretary-Treasurer ..... | Bernice Kirkham (Terry), <i>Mu-Psi</i>         |
| Grand Editor-Historian .....    | Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), <i>Tau</i>     |
| Inspector .....                 | Mildred Spragg (Boyd), <i>Theta-Alpha Zeta</i> |

#### 1930-1933

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Grand President .....           | Bertha Cruse (Gardner), <i>Beta</i>        |
| Grand Vice-President .....      | Mildred Snowden (Smith), <i>Xi</i>         |
| Grand Secretary-Treasurer ..... | Bernice Kirkham (Terry), <i>Mu-Psi</i>     |
| Grand Editor-Historian .....    | Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), <i>Tau</i> |
| Inspector .....                 | May E. Youngberg, <i>Alpha Phi</i>         |

#### 1933-1935

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Grand President .....           | Dorothy Swaney (Hillix), <i>Theta</i>         |
| Grand Vice-President .....      | Elizabeth Steinhauer (Ott), <i>Beta Delta</i> |
| Grand Secretary-Treasurer ..... | May E. Youngberg, <i>Alpha Phi</i>            |
| Grand Editor-Historian .....    | Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), <i>Tau</i>    |
| Inspector .....                 | Helen Kagay (Prophet), <i>Alpha Gamma</i>     |

#### 1935-1937

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Grand President .....  | Dorothy Swaney (Hillix), <i>Theta</i>         |
| Grand First Vice-President .....   | Elizabeth Steinhauer (Ott), <i>Beta Delta</i> |
| Grand Second Vice-President .....  | Helen Kagay (Prophet), <i>Alpha Gamma</i>     |
| Grand Secretary-Treasurer .....  | May E. Youngberg, <i>Alpha Phi</i>            |
| Grand Editor-Historian .....   | Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), <i>Tau</i>    |
| (Marjorie Glasson (Ross), <i>Phi</i> , was the 1935-37 Field Secretary.) |   |

#### 1937-1939

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Grand President .....   | Louise Kettler (Helper), <i>Kappa</i>         |
| Grand First Vice-President .....  | Elizabeth Steinhauer (Ott), <i>Beta Delta</i> |
| Grand Second Vice-President .....   | Lucile Reece (Roberts), <i>Beta Gamma</i>     |
| Grand Secretary-Treasurer .....   | May E. Youngberg, <i>Alpha Phi</i>            |
| Grand Editor-Historian .....  | Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), <i>Tau</i>    |
| (Marion Mayer (Bergin), <i>Alpha Nu</i> , was the 1937-39 Field Secretary.) |   |

### Supplementary Notes

1. The 1933 convention's condensed summary, although printed, marked the first departure from the long-followed custom of having full, printed convention minutes containing reports, proceedings, et cetera. And it was the last to be printed. Subsequent summaries were mimeographed. Convention also had the services of a professional stenotypist. A \$25 deposit fee was thereafter charged for the loan of the verbatim minutes.
2. The first meeting of Grand Chapter with province presidents after a convention was held following the 1928 meeting.
3. By Grand Chapter vote in the summer of 1928. Said the Editor-Historian's 1930 convention report:  
 "When pictures of Zeta Tau Alpha's new headquarters and a story of our new Central Office, containing the pictures of Grand Chapter, were the featured first pages in the October, 1928 issue of *Banta's Greek Exchange*, Zeta Tau Alpha had the distinction of being the first organization ever to be so featured in that publication."
4. "Previous to this term" May Youngberg told the 1935 convention, "the Secretary-Treasurer had two assistants. In line with the need for economy, the 1933 convention voted to dispense with one of these . . . because of the expectation" of installing a commercial "system of accounting in all the chapters." Her 1937 report largely repeated that. A larger office staff was eventually forthcoming.
5. This convention restored to normal the remuneration of the Secretary-Treasurer which was cut, with the others, at the 1933 depression convention. The others were not restored.
6. The standards plan was first tried out in Delta province, under the direction of May Youngberg, then National Inspector. The trial was so successful that the plan was presented to the 1933 province presidents' school. Before that, "after an inspection," the National Inspector sent the chapter a rating chart showing its new rating.
7. The Inspector's 1935 convention report told of the adoption of a new type of examination recommended by the 1933 province presidents' school. It included "true and false" questions, completion questions and standard essay questions.
8. Said the National Historian's record of that period:  
 "But while the fraternity was welcoming its new Canadian sisters, it was also mourning the passing of Alpha Lambda at Hollins College, which became inactive at the end of the 1929 college year. The chapter became extinct through administrative action which forbade further bidding or initiating after that year—looking toward the eventual discontinuance of women's fraternities at Hollins.  
 "Strangely enough, five of Zeta Tau Alpha's [then] eight inactive chapters are in the fraternity's mother state, and of Zeta's six original Virginia chapters, only one, Delta, remains on the active chapter roll. Alpha and Eta were reluctantly relinquished in order to meet the entrance requirements of the National Panhellenic Congress; Original Beta, always *sub-rosa*, could not survive the hazards of faculty opposition; lack of suitable material at Richmond College caused the withdrawal of Iota's charter, and Alpha Lambda, one of the strongest chapters in the fraternity, was another link severed by adverse action of a college administration."
9. In 1928-1930, except for a slight decrease in the number of initiations, Zeta Tau Alpha experienced no adverse repercussions from the general economic conditions momentarily becoming more widespread. In fact, said a 1933 record, "in comparison with the previous expansion period, extension received slightly more consideration,

with the number of charter grants exceeding by one the number granted in 1926-1928."

10. The President reported that "two chapters have been suspended from normal activity."
11. As a result of experience, and the success of a similar policy with a new group, Grand Chapter adopted a policy at its January, 1935 meeting in Chicago which provided "that newly installed chapters be under national supervision for five years after installation, that a coorganizer be sent the first year, and a transfer be sent the second year." While it was started, this policy did not become a practice.
12. The fraternity's attitude was reflected by a 1930 biographer (Evelyn Allan Jones, Alpha Phi) who wrote in the post-convention issue that "the Editor's untiring, inspiring service has placed our magazine—which presents us to the fraternity world—among the very best publications in Greek-letter journalism. We are proud of *Themis*, its new cover design, typography, illustrations, broad, interesting articles and editorials, often copied in other publications."
13. For several years after the 1928 convention, *The Creed of Zeta Tau Alpha* appeared in almost every issue of *Themis*, as did the Zeta Tau Alpha Symphony by Clara Odell Squires, Alpha Rho. A separate directory that carried the increasingly long list of active chapters, their installation dates and installation officers, survived from early days until space limitations made their elimination mandatory after the November, 1938 issue—the last that carried such a listing. Inactive chapters were also listed in a correlative section.
14. The magazine's "pinnacle rating—one acknowledged by outsiders" was a point of pride often mentioned.
15. In December, 1929, the Editor "wrote and issued a new twenty-two page *Manual of Themis Instructions* for chapter correspondents and contributors. It contained a clear style sheet, as well as . . . explanations of *Themis*' needs." It was published gratis by the publisher of *Themis*.
16. The *Themis* staff "remained small, with two members, both new appointees. Ellen Corse (Potter), Alpha Rho, became alumnæ editor upon the resignation of A. Louise Haines, Rho. When Adelaide Hazelton (Jones) relinquished "the active chapter editorship, Mrs. Potter did double duty until the appointment of Merle Raines, Alpha Gamma. . . ."
17. "It is through *Themis*," said the President's 1930 report, "that the impression of Zeta Tau Alpha is presented to the Greek world, as well as to our members. We are truly proud of the quality of our magazine." Its circulation was given as 5,700.
18. That fall (1930) the Editor wrote and distributed the detailed and instructional "What Constitutes News for *Themis*," which supplemented the already existing *Themis Manual*.
19. Editorially, *Themis* explained that "the cover design is, in part, a reproduction of the famous painting 'Blue Bonnets,' by Julian Onderdonk, long considered the leading artist of Texas, this canvas ranking as one of the best." Onderdonk won much recognition through his celebrated blue bonnet pictures. "As a work of art," the Laurence Art Galleries of Dallas said, "Blue Bonnets," like most Onderdonk paintings, is above criticism. [It] is a typical springtime scene in the hills around San Antonio, and is very true to nature, as any Texan who has seen these blue-clad hills . . . can testify."
20. Since 1923 the Editor had acted as Zeta's official representative for *Banta's Greek Exchange*, and the fraternity was proud of its excellent, and sometimes extensive,



representation in that distinguished interfraternity journal of long-established reputation. The 1928-1938 decade had especially heavy representation with articles, features, items and pictures.

Then, in 1933, when *The Fraternity Month*, another interfraternity publication, was launched, Zeta's Editor, along with others selected, was asked to be an associate editor of the new periodical. This office she accepted, continuing editorial cooperation through this decade.

21. Statistics of this period affecting *Themis* are interesting: The mailing list of *Themis* had increased as follows: 1929-1930-5,600 copies; 1930-1931-6,315 copies—an increase of 715; 1931-1932-6,885 copies—an increase of 570; 1932-1933-7,130 copies—an increase of 245.

"In the three-year period since last convention," the Secretary-Treasurer reported," there have been 1,588 additions to the life subscribers [and] . . . twenty-four annual subscriptions . . . 345 names are not on the mailing list because Central Office has not been supplied with correct addresses."

Total *Themis* costs, including circulation, were illustrative of the economy story: 1930-1931-\$4,991.66; 1931-1932-\$4,751.35; 1932-1933-\$3,428.93.

22. The *Themis* staff of that time included Ellen Corse (Potter), Alpha Rho, alumnae editor; Dorothy Claus (Wallace), Alpha Tau, chapter letter editor. Upon the resignation of Merle Raines, Alpha Gamma, Cornelia Thompson (Huizinga), Alpha Gamma, became chapter letter editor until forced by ill health to resign. Dorothy Claus Wallace was appointed to take her place. Mrs. Wallace and Mrs. Potter were both listed in 1935 and 1937, too.
23. A typographical description of *Themis* was given to a convention for the first time in Missouri.
24. Alumnae news was summarized in narrative form in the May, 1932 issue—another economy move, but the regular form was resumed in November. After the 1933 Grand Chapter meeting, alumnae letters appeared in two issues yearly, instead of four, exclusive of the May number.
25. This convention learned that the Editor had assembled a file "containing prints" of *Themis* cuts, all numbered "in order." The collection, augmented with each issue, then contained 1,253 cuts.
26. Many of these were by Bertha Cruse Gardner, the President, during whose administration Health Center was launched. Also, installments of the Editor's serialized story of her fall, 1931 visit to Health Center, appeared in the January, March and May, 1932 issues.
27. *Themis* was "generously quoted in the Greek press" at this time, "sometimes whole articles being reprinted," and "numerous mentions of Zeta Tau Alpha appeared in other magazines."
28. "In the summer of 1933, when it became apparent that prices would advance, *Themis*, in conjunction with some other women's groups, made [an advantageous] advance paper purchase."
29. The new departments were, "With Zeta Authors," "Zetas in the News," and "The Editor's Desk."
30. In 1936, for the first time, life subscriptions were accepted in installments of \$2 a year for five years. With a membership of 10,000, *Themis* was proud that its mailing list numbered 8,460—"nearing the 100% record"—the goal of the "Every Zeta a *Themis* Subscriber" campaign which was launched in the November issue.
31. All through the lean years the quality of the paper stock was never lowered. In 1937 it was still 60-pound Calumet coated.

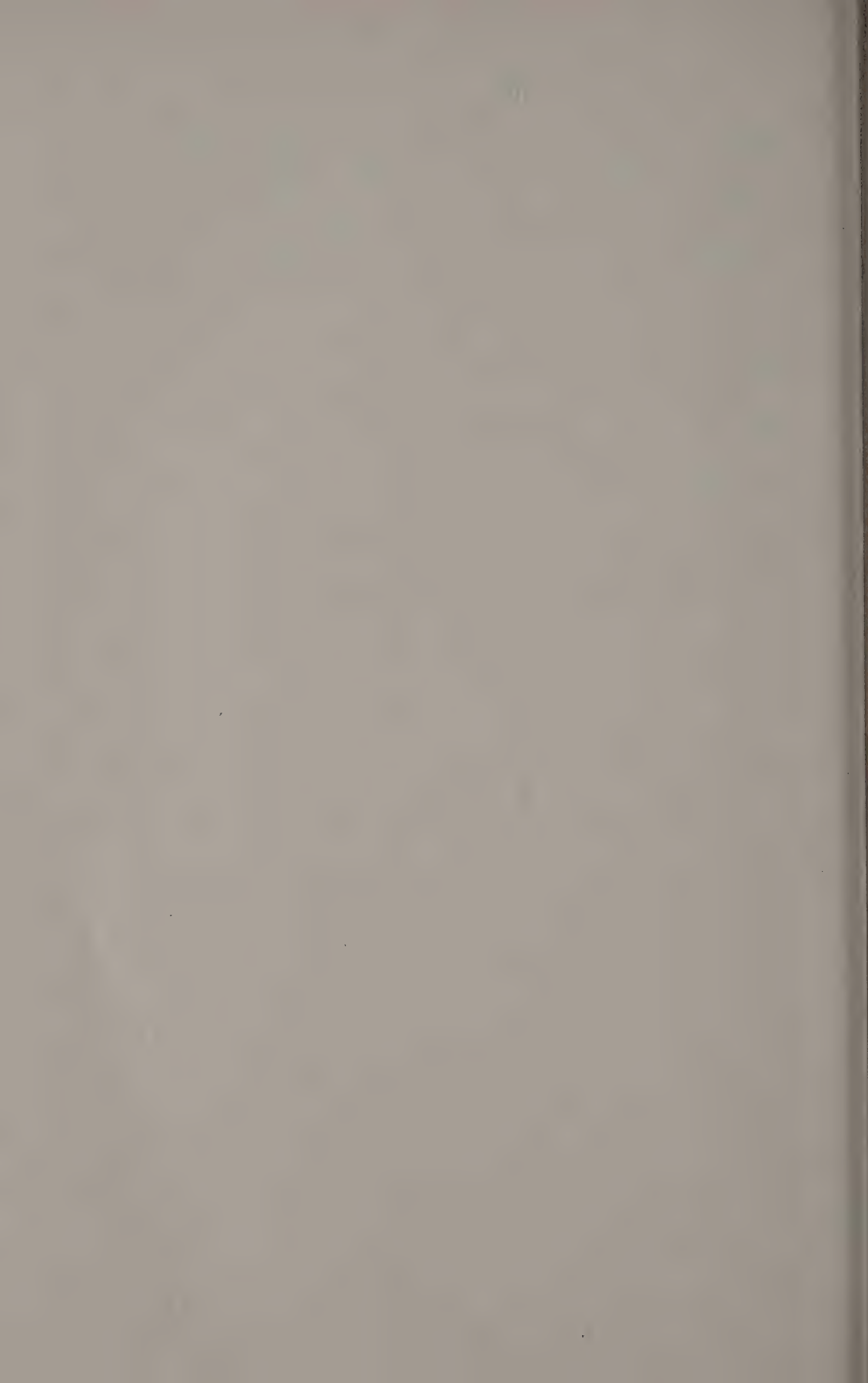
32. Headings for college chapter letters graduated from "With the Actives," to "The Undergraduate World." "With Zeta Alumnæ" was supplanted by "The Alumnæ World."
33. Later in the decade (1935, 1936 and 1937), gray and blue pages carried the names of "rushing chairmen," while philanthropy-featuring alumnæ-dues-requesting orange sheets, were also found in some issues.
34. As listed in the November, 1937 issue, the new staff members were: Beryl Williamson (Bergman), Beta Rho, alumnæ editor; Nellie Chamberlain, Alpha Iota, chapter letter editor.
35. This *Manual* had been mentioned before. In her report to the 1928 convention, Catharine Beverley said that "the materials for a fraternity manual have been assembled by the National Inspector and the Grand President, with additions by other Grand Chapter members, and are presented to this convention for approval." Grand Chapter's pre-1928 meeting especially commended the "splendid work done on this by Charlotte MacGregor."
36. With compilation work on the *Manual* scheduled for the summer of that year, the 1931 Grand Chapter meeting took note that each Grand Chapter member was "to be given her part in it for revision and further preparation." Accordingly, each officer worked on the section pertaining to her office.
37. When Helen Prophet became Second Vice-President the *Manual* went with her, although previously it was a duty assigned to the National Inspector. In 1937 she recommended "that the Secretary-Treasurer take over as the logical officer" to handle it. It was not to be reprinted after the 1937 conclave, but each chapter was to "be furnished with the necessary revisions in order to bring theirs up to date."
38. In her 1933 convention report the Secretary-Treasurer said, "This book, written by Mildred Spragg Boyd, [was] issued by Central Office in February, 1932."
39. Press Release No. 1, on National Scholarship Day, appeared in March, 1935. Interestingly, Press Release No. 3 (a general informational sketch for use in whole or in part in Zeta newstories) which followed before convention, became the established name for other and revised versions of this sketch that appeared through the years. From then on, a Press Release No. 3 became standard equipment for all chapters.
40. "In line with . . . conservative financial policy," the President told the 1935 convention, "Grand Chapter recommended to the Finance Committee that scholarship loans be curtailed to some extent and that the availability of the applicant as coorganizer material be taken into consideration. . . ."
41. In 1933 "the entire administration" of this fund "was turned over" to Dr. Hopkins, "in as much as the Hopkins Fund was originally a gift" to her.
42. The first recipient was (Mrs.) Billie Louise Crook of Austin.
43. "Standards of living varied greatly, depending largely upon the degree of outside contacts. In areas where there were church missions, conditions were much better. Some cabins were spotlessly clean. They had tables, chairs, and walls neatly papered with pages torn from newspapers and magazines. Some had gardens, chickens and hogs, while others, probably just across the ridge, had practically none of these things and were living in poverty and filth."
44. The donation of "one acre of land" was contingent upon the erection of a suitable house for Health Center. "One of the strongest desires of my administration is to see our Health Center firmly established for the future," Bertha Gardner wrote in the November, 1929 issue of *Themis*. So, when "the county offered to give logs for the house from an old building, provided it was torn down and removed at once,

knowing that there were available no fraternity funds for erecting a house, I personally financed the proposition."

45. The cabin was characteristic of its mountain setting, in keeping with its environment and approachability to the people it sought to serve. Also, it was something they could imitate, something within their own reach of acquisition.
46. Sally the Second, as friends and the Health Center staff called the Ford, was purchased in 1935, after hard use and mountain trails had literally rattled Sally the First to pieces. By this time interested Marion friends made contributions toward the purchase of the new car. After an accident wrecked Sally the Second, another car was acquired.
47. Before 1931, water was piped in and a garage was built from the proceeds of clothing sales. When electricity arrived that year, the same sales financed the wiring and fixtures. Other immediate improvements included painting, building a new floor, a back porch and wood shed, adding a bathroom partition and fixtures and so on. From the day of the basic cabin's erection, maintenance activities and added features or improvements were listed regularly.
48. Alpha Lambda sent its furniture to Health Center on June 2, 1931, after Hollins College's discontinuance of fraternities caused the chapter's demise.
49. Articles on Health Center were widely printed. A four-page article on Currin Valley, by Zeta's Editor-Historian, appeared in the April, 1930, issue of *Banta's Greek Exchange*, while her 1933 convention report told of providing pictures and feature stories for the *St. Louis Times-Star* as well as for papers in Minneapolis, Kansas City and other cities. Articles were also prepared for other fraternity magazines, including Pi Beta Phi and Alpha Gamma Delta, and Health Center's story went far and wide through the medium of individual members and Zeta's own official press releases.
50. Pellagra, hookworm, goiter, tuberculosis and intestinal parasites were among the ailments that afflicted the mountain people.
51. Typical were chapter gifts in 1937 which included new furnishings and equipment for Health Center, a heater for the car, two mattresses, two oil heaters, quilts and comforters, among scores of other contributions.
52. Two sets of post-cards were available during this decade—an early view, and a later-day picture of the beautified, improved Health Center.
53. The appointment of a Committee of Three to draw up a ten-year development plan was authorized in 1933. Presented to the 1935 convention, this report concluded "that it will be impossible to expand at our present location." A swampy area on one side and the impossibility of buying adjoining land were determining factors. So, since a survey revealed that "our project is now located geographically on the edge of our territory," they felt that "any further expansion should be in an accessible place nearer the center of the probable future activity." That was Sugar Grove. Retention of the Attoway unit was planned. Approval of the committee's report and other action concerning Health Center will be found in the 1935 convention account. On the planning committee were: Lucile Miles Holt, Delta, chairman; Mabel Slout Weeter, Beta Lambda; Inez Lovelace, Zeta.
54. Because the complete Health Center story would, in itself, fill a book, the limited pages available here can do little more than present a general picture and sketch the high lights of Zeta's work in a region that adapted itself to extensive, appealing exposition and reporting. Nor, for the same reason, was it possible to include the names of the many interested and devoted Zetas who figured in the detailed story that lies locked in letters, reports and *Themis* stories of that period.



55. Mabel Weeter's 1935 convention report gave appreciative acknowledgment to Miss Mary L. Crosby's "five years of arduous work in establishing the philanthropic program of Zeta Tau Alpha on a firm basis." When she left a year later, the November, 1936 *Themis* said that "the success of our work in Currin Valley has been due largely to her untiring energy and skillful planning."
56. Volume I of the first *History of Zeta Tau Alpha* carried a more complete account of N.P.C. than is possible here. Because of space limitations resulting from the necessity of covering five decades (and each adequately) of Zeta's voluminous history within the restrictions of one volume, little more than the delegates' names, N.P.C.'s dates and locations, and an occasional important development can be given here.
57. Mrs. Gardner also represented Zeta's Editor at the Editors' Conference. Scheduled to be the alternate delegate, circumstances prevented the Editor's attendance at the last minute.
58. Around this time, *Banta's Greek Exchange* was carrying a feature entitled "Great Fraternity Leaders." Dr. Hopkins was the subject of a brief personal sketch in the January, 1931 issue.
59. Said Mrs. Gardner's N.P.C. story in January, 1932, *Themis*: Mrs. Wilma Smith Le-land, editor of *To Dragma*, of Alpha Omicron Pi, was elected president of the Editors' Conference, and Mrs. Shirley K. Krieg, editor of *Themis* of Zeta Tau Alpha, was elected secretary.
60. "In June, 1934, another interfraternity honor fell to Zeta Tau Alpha when, for the first time in its history, a woman presided at, and was toastmistress of, the annual banquet-meeting of the Midwestern Editors' Conference traditionally held in Chicago. Upon . . . invitation of the College Editors' Association, and with very little warning, Zeta's editor took over the direction of this dinner conference. . . ."
61. The quota system originated at the University of Illinois, in 1933. The story of its development was first told in the January, 1934 issue of *Themis*, by Irene D. Pierson, assistant dean of women.
62. "Fraternity Factors—Biographies of Modern Greekdom" was a relatively new feature in *Banta's Greek Exchange* at this time. The September, 1935, *Link* called the fraternity's attention to the July, 1935 issue, which carried a picture and sketch of Zeta's Editor-Historian in that section—the first Zeta officer to be chosen to appear in it.
63. Zeta's Editor also assisted with the publicity for this Congress and was a program speaker on publicity at the Editors' dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria.



9

*The Fifth Decade*

1938-1948

6





## Preface

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**T**HIS DECADE—of World War II—saw global war, peace, which was no peace, the dawn of the atomic age, and the start of a cold war.

Dictators held the stage as 1939 opened. Japan kept up her undeclared war on China; Spain's Civil War ended, with Franco the victor. After forming an alliance with Stalin, Hitler invaded Poland, bringing Great Britain and France into the war. While the Polish blitzkrieg was under way, Russia invaded Poland from the east, acquiring two-thirds of the country and one-half of its population. Germany invaded or took over a succession of countries; the Soviets did likewise. The world learned of the horrors of concentration and slave labor camps.

In an hour so threatening that he could offer only "blood, sweat, and tears," Winston Churchill became Britain's prime minister in May, 1940. Holland and Belgium fell to the Germans that month. The British army was driven into the sea and forced into heroic retreat from Dunkirk. As Paris was threatened, Italy entered the war as Germany's ally. The Nazis crossed the Seine. Paris fell. The Vichy collaborators and Nazis governed France. The French Underground Resistance was born. Now alone, England withstood four months of Luftwaffe mass bombing and won the battle of the air. Germany launched submarine warfare in 1941, early sinking an American convoy ship.

Russia's vast manpower was pitted against Nazi military might when Hitler turned on Stalin in 1941, two months after the Russian-Japanese neutrality pact was signed. Russia then joined the allied powers and received, through American lend-lease, supplies of all kinds. Germany lost the battle with Russia.

The United States imposed the draft in 1940. War on two fronts—the European and Pacific—followed Japan's December 7, 1941 bombing of Pearl Harbor, and the axis declaration of war. American troops were sent all over the world.

In Europe: Italy surrendered to the allies and declared war on Germany after the 1943 Sicilian invasion, the battles of Cassino and Anzio Beach taking heavy American toll. Mussolini (imprisoned by the Italian King) was rescued by German paratroopers. The axis was driven out of Africa in 1943.

The United States poured men, metal, and high explosives into Britain; troops totalled nearly three million by June, 1944. Directed by General Eisenhower, the Normandy invasion began June 6 (D Day was June 5); Paris was liberated in August. The Americans fought through St. Lô, Ardennes, won the Battle of the Bulge and crossed the Rhine, destroying the German front in western Europe. Meanwhile, the Russians captured Warsaw, entered Vienna and moved into East Prussia. In April, 1945, the Americans and Russians formed a junction near Dresden. Mussolini was mobbed and hanged on April 28; Hitler committed suicide four days later. American troops were halted to let the Russians go in and take Berlin. Germany surrendered on May 8—VE Day.

Events in the Pacific were: Japan's attack on Manila on December 7, 1941; General MacArthur's withdrawal to Bataan Peninsula; his transfer to Australia to command the South Pacific defenses; the Bataan death march; the tragedy of Corregidor. The way back was through primeval jungle— island by island—to drive out the entrenched Japanese. Guadalcanal, the Solomons, New Guinea, Rabaul, Bougainville, Truk, Tarawa, Saipan, Midway, and other hitherto little-heard-of places were in the headlines as land, sea, and air forces fought their way to Tokyo.

The Japanese had swarmed over Siam, Indo-China, Wake Island, Guam, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaya, Rangoon and innumerable islands. Locked-in China was inaccessible by sea until the navy won its way over the Pacific; nothing could enter by land until the Japanese were pushed out of North Burma. In the CBI theatre Americans flew the treacherous Hump over the Himalaya Mountains, moving men and an incredibly vast amount of matériel. Chungking became China's capital and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's headquarters. General Chennault's Flying Tigers made history.

Manila was freed in February, 1945, after MacArthur's October, 1944 landing at Leyte (the greatest naval action of all time). Doolittle's famous raid on Tokyo was launched from the aircraft carrier *Hornet*. Iwo Jima was captured in February, Okinawa in April. On August 6, the first atom bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, the second on Nagasaki on August 9. Russia entered the war on August 8, invading Manchuria. On August 10 the Japanese bowed to the Potsdam Conference's ultimatum, provided the Emperor could be retained. Formal surrender ended World War II on September 2—VJ Day.

Fateful war conferences were: Roosevelt's and Churchill's meeting on the high seas; Casablanca (Roosevelt and Churchill), with its "unconditional surrender" ultimatum; Teheran (Roosevelt, Churchill, Stalin); Yalta (the same three), when Stalin was given the rights to the Manchurian railways and Port Arthur and Darian in return for promised help against Japan; Potsdam, with Truman succeeding Roosevelt. Churchill and Roosevelt met briefly with Chiang in Cairo, preceding the Teheran meeting. Mention of the CBI theatre found them at odds.



On the home front: The first president ever to serve more than two terms, Roosevelt defied the two-term tradition and was reelected in 1940 and 1944. He died in April, 1945. Harry Truman, his successor, won the 1948 election and brought in the Fair Deal.

With 1942's imposition of sugar rationing and rent control, ration books and coupons (everyone had to register), priorities and controls governed lives and covered everything from sugar, meat, fats, coffee, cigarettes, hose, to gasoline, tires, and cars. Men's trousers became cuffless; vests, and suits with two pairs of trousers were banned. Regulations put women back in knee-length skirts and those who wore large sizes in a plight. Silk hose became a war casualty; nylons were at a premium; the critical girdle shortage threatened figure control. Civilian building was halted; housing became tight. Peacetime's plaguing unemployment problem turned into a manpower shortage. Womanpower was the new order of the day: women joined the armed forces; thousands worked in factories and war plants; women worked everywhere. Government jobs again drew thousands to Washington; there were vigorous taxation and extensive bond drives. Schools went on accelerated programs. Ghost writers, who wrote speeches, rose in prominence. At its zenith, radio was an indispensable adjunct to living. Newscasts and commentators held interest of millions: Radio offered many programs, the best symphonies and voices.

The United Nations was born in San Francisco in 1946; the UN building went up in New York. The UN Assembly partitioned Palestine into Jewish and Arab states in 1947. Pakistan was created out of the predominantly Moslem provinces when Great Britain granted independence to India. General MacArthur's administration of postwar Japan was without incident, and the execution in December, 1948, of Japan's war criminals, more than three years after the *Missouri* steamed into Tokyo Bay, completed one of World War II's chapters. Nazi war criminals faced trial at Nuremberg. Britain lived under an "austerity" program and took steps on the road to Socialism.

After Hiroshima, uranium became a much-sought-after metal; an air force fighter flew hundreds of miles faster than sound; jet planes were on their way to replace propeller aircraft. By 1948 the average span of life was 66 (it was 49 in 1900); there was all-day television from New York, but relatively few TV sets. Business began decentralizing; ranch-style homes and moderne design won wide favor; the move to the suburbs began and suburbia was soon to burst out all over. The bumper crop of war babies and the trend toward large families headed the country toward a school problem. Wages and prices started their race upward; the dollar shrank in purchasing power. New antibiotics, scientific and medical discoveries of the war years were to be a boon. The armed forces were unified. Christian Dior's "new look" revolution of 1947 outmoded wardrobes; heavily padded shoulders went out. Styles accented feminine curves; longer skirts had swinging fullness or sophisticated slimmness. Grandma Moses set a new style in art.

Blair House became the president's official residence in 1948 when extensive repairs started on the White House. The States Rights Party of the South (the Dixiecrats) was formed when southern Democrats protested the party platform civil rights plank.

Popular song writers began frequently to borrow melodies from Tchaikovsky, Debussy, Ravel, Beethoven, Rachmaninoff, and others. Composers such as Jerome Kern, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, and Sigmund Romberg established popular music as a significant art form. Paderewski made his farewell concert tour in 1939. Jitterbug jargon provided novelty; waltz songs were still around. But World War II produced nothing to compare with the patriotic music of the past. Among the decade's songs were:

"September In The Rain," "When I Take You Out In The Surrey," "Harbor Lights," "Red Sails In The Sunset," "The White Cliffs Of Dover," "Over The Rainbow," "I'll Walk Alone," "People Will Say We're In Love," "This Is The Army," "Laura," "White Christmas," "O What A Beautiful Morning," "When You Wish Upon A Star," "Chapel In The Moonlight," "Wishing," "My Heart Stood Still," "With A Song In My Heart," "Out Of My Dreams," "When The Lights Go On Again," "Praise The Lord And Pass The Ammunition," "Begin The Beguine," "Maori Farewell Song" ("Now Is The Hour").

Irving Berlin's all-soldier show, "This Is The Army," was a great success. Tuneful "Oklahoma" was a decade favorite. A prize went to "A Streetcar Named Desire." "Mister Roberts" was 1948's outstanding play. Others enjoying long runs were: "Life With Father," "The Voice Of The Turtle," "Brigadoon," "Born Yesterday," "Annie, Get Your Gun," "Call Me Mister," "Harvey," "Lady In The Dark."

"Gone With The Wind," 1939's best picture, had almost timeless appeal. Outstanding war pictures were "Mrs. Miniver," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," and "Casablanca." Others remembered were: "Goodbye, Mr. Chips," "The Lost Weekend," "The Philadelphia Story," "A Song To Remember," "The Yearling," "Rebecca," "How Green Was My Valley," "The Heiress," "Reap The Wild Wind." "Cheaper By The Dozen" had an impact on the country. Color Photography came into more use.

Publishing became big business; the decade produced many good books. Most writers wrote with a vivid, colloquial style, unpretentious but accurate. Most books moved rapidly. Best sellers included: "Rebecca" (Daphne du Maurier); "Inside Asia" (Gunther); "Mrs. Miniver" (Jan Struther); "Random Harvest" (Hilton); "Song of Bernadette" (Werfel); "Dragon Seed" (Pearl Buck); "The Robe" (Douglas); "The Valley Of Decision" (Marcia Davenport); "So Little Time" (Marquand); "A Tree Grows In Brooklyn" (Betty Smith); "The Black Robe" (Costain); "For Whom The Bell Tolls" (Hemingway).

Russia started the cold war in 1947 in opposition to the Marshall Plan. Her blockade of Berlin was met by the ingenious air lift. Germany was now partitioned into East (Communist controlled) and West Germany. The North Atlantic Alliance was formed; an attempt to put Italy behind the iron curtain failed. Russia took Manchuria in 1948. Driving down from the north, the Communist forces steadily forced Chiang Kai-shek to give ground.

The year 1948 survived a series of crises without another world holocaust. In Europe, the Near East and Far East, many grave incidents providentially lacked the overt elements necessary for another universal war.

## The Chapters

**G**AMMA DELTA: Widely shared was the rejoicing and approval when Zeta Tau Alpha entered the University of Mississippi in 1939.

"For many years the authorities at Ole Miss and those interested in fraternities have wished for a chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha to be established there," wrote Eric Dawson,<sup>1</sup> Sigma Alpha Epsilon, one of the country's best known fraternity men at that time. "Mississippi is the only state in the South which does not claim a chapter of this splendid sorority, which was founded in the South. A chapter belongs at Ole Miss and everyone is delighted with the decision to grant a charter. Zeta Tau Alpha will flourish at Ole Miss," he concluded, "for it has the traditions and background to make a place for itself there, as it has done over the nation."

Sharing the realization that southern-born Zeta belonged on this campus of the Deep South, the fraternity was equally delighted with the turn of events, which were sparked by Mr. Dawson himself.

Zeta's Grand President (and Director of Extension), herself knee-deep in enthusiasm and the detailed planning that brought the whole project to completion, exulted that "another dream has come true! For Zeta officially came to the University of Mississippi on April 14—a fine chapter in the last of the old southern states not previously on our chapter roll."

True, "Zeta's interest in this university had been alive for many years," and at one time the fraternity had even been petitioned. But, as Eric Dawson explained, "There has always been periodic antagonism to fraternities at Ole Miss. In 1912 an anti-fraternity law was enacted and was not repealed until 1926." Still, conditions were not propitious for some years even after that, so Zeta Tau Alpha considered it wise to wait.

Then "tangible evidence that the hour was at hand came in the form of a letter from an interested friend in October, 1938, nearly two years ago," *Themis* said in the presentation story. That interested friend was Eric Dawson, who wrote the letter and set the wheels in motion. An ardent southerner and fraternity man,<sup>2</sup> his sincere admiration for Zeta Tau Alpha and interest in Ole Miss led to his taking the initiative. "A few weeks later," Louise Helper wrote from New Orleans, "I was on my way to Oxford." And from then on she worked ardently and unceasingly, even to the giving of her own resources.



Introducing the famous old southern university to *Themis* readers, Mr. Dawson told them that

The University of Mississippi, familiarly known to students the nation over as Ole Miss, is one of the most romantic and historical institutions of learning in the South. Its founding dates back to 1844, but students were not admitted until four years later, when eight students enrolled. In the early days it was distinctly a university for the wealthy. Every student at that time brought along his colored servant. This custom continued long after the Civil War. Since 1882, Ole Miss has been co-educational. Of the 1400 students in attendance today, nearly 400 are women.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, exercises were abandoned and practically all students took up arms for the Confederacy. All of the buildings were used by the northern army during its encampment at Oxford. The inhabitants will show the visitor a large oak at Lamar Street under which General Grant pitched his tent. It was his friendship for one of the residents that prevented the burning of all the buildings on the campus. In 1869 the carpet-baggers granted to Negroes the full advantages of the institution. Most of the white students left for other colleges.

Ole Miss, known over the Southland as the most democratic and friendly college in that section of the country, is not a rich man's college. Mississippi is an agricultural state and its people have modest incomes. The actual expenses are around \$300 and beyond that amount the student may spend what his bank account will allow. A large increase in the enrollment of women students is expected next year. . . . There is no doubt that Ole Miss is destined to progress more than it ever has in the past; and for that reason I am delighted that Zeta Tau Alpha has decided to enter there and grow with the university.

The territory had previously been well surveyed. Among the Mississippians were "many, many Zetas . . . educated largely in our women's colleges and nearby universities. . . . Last summer all of these Zetas received news of the plans for a chapter at Oxford and their enthusiasm and support was immediate. Recommendations came pouring in," Louise Helper reported with satisfaction.

In that cordial and welcoming atmosphere<sup>3</sup> Zeta Tau Alpha set the wheels of colonization in motion, for Gamma Delta was to be the first Zeta chapter formed wholly by this colonization method which was then becoming a frequent practice in the women's fraternity world.

"In September 1938, Zeta Tau Alpha really made its début in the state of Mississippi," wrote Ione Mayer (Howard), chief colonizer, "when two colonizers were sent to organize a chapter—Evelyn Hillin (Brelanski), Alpha Nu, and Ione Mayer (Howard), Beta Kappa. Plans were made by Grand Chapter, under the direction of the Grand President."

Officers of the organizing group were: Ione Mayer (Howard), president and pledge adviser; Evelyn Hillin (Brelanski), vice-president; Grace Smith (Green), Beta Omega, rushing chairman; and Sarah Clayton, also a Beta Omega transfer, chairman of national information.

The "rushing season opened with a splendid representation when Martha Belle Sulzby, president of Beta province, and Penelope Prewitt (Cunningham), Alpha Nu, Alabama rushing chairman, with five other enthusiastic Zetas arrived

from Birmingham. From Memphis came other members. In all, a most auspicious beginning."

Pledges to the future Gamma Delta chapter, whom they welcomed Thursday afternoon, September 29, 1938, at the home of Dean Guess, dean of men, were all from the state of Mississippi: Laura Bryant (Emrick), Ellen Dunahoo, Doris Loffin (Cooke), Nancy Potter (Orloski), Margaret Jackson, Ruth Weis (Flournoy), Vera Nell Rankin (Davies) and Genevieve Hart. Formal pledge services were held that evening.

"Each month brought interesting developments": They "were most fortunate in having Mary Hartshorn (Johnson) as their faculty adviser. The group as a whole and as individuals won honors and campus recognition . . . possessing the true qualities of a charter group."

It was November when "Mrs. Helper came to inspect and see the colonization progress," Ione Mayer reported—"also to check on the construction of the new house." For a new house was actually going up.

While visiting the campus the previous spring, Zeta's President was "told of an opportunity to build a house under a government campus building program." That started it. It also started a great volume of work, but by installation time the house was completed, although it became necessary to put private funds into it.

Started in the late fall, in March the "lovely colonial home was completed and accepted by the university." One of the "South's foremost decorators from Memphis," planned and furnished it. Solid mahogany was used throughout and it was hospitable, inviting.

Thus, Gamma Delta had the distinction of having its own chapter house built and completely furnished in time for installation.

Then at the height of its beauty, Mississippi's dogwood—"brought in by the armloads"—added its loveliness to the initiation setting as the formal ceremonies began on Friday, April 14, 1949. "Against the French-gray walls it made a lovely sight." . . . And there to assist with initiation preparations were Zetas from Starkville, Mississippi, Memphis and Jackson, Tennessee.

Aside from Ione Mayer (Howard) and Evelyn Hillin (Brelanski), those who composed the charter group and who were initiated that soft spring day were: Vera Rankin (Davies), Doris Loffin (Cooke), Nancy Potter (Orloski), Ruth Weis (Flournoy), Margaret Jackson, Laura Bryant (Emrick), undergraduates; Gertrude Eggleston (Keyce), Mary Hartsfield (Johnson), Clyde Little (Hartsfield), Mary Elizabeth Nichols, alumnae. The officiating officer, Louise Kettler Helper, was assisted by Marion Mayer (Bergin), Field Secretary. The full day concluded with a gala open house, when the campus and townspeople called to pay "their respects and wish us all success," the chapter wrote.

But even to Zeta's President, to whom an installation was no novelty, "Satur-

day, April 15, was exciting beyond words. Zetas arrived from North and South—twenty-five in all. Campus sororities and fraternities sent flowers and presents until the house was a riot of color, resembling a flower garden. Telegrams and messages poured in from Zeta chapters. Beta province sent a beautiful old eighteenth-century highboy to grace the living-room. Isabel Heckert (Kern), Beta Kappa, a well known New Orleans artist, who drove with me from New Orleans for the festivities, gave Gamma Delta a large water color to be placed over the fireplace. . . .”

Completely in tune with the setting was the spring luncheon “given for campus friends and visitors,” while nothing could have been more characteristic than the quietly assured statement that “if their popularity is any indication, our college members had a marvelous time” at the tea-dance which followed at the college rendezvous, the Tea Hound.

Presiding at the banquet as toastmistress that night, Hazel Ellis, Beta Omega, was “in turn inspirational, amusing but always clever.” The Tea Hound was again the setting.

With colonization as the theme the toasts were: The Colonists’ Prayer—The Zeta Prayer; Colonization in Virginia; The First Settlers in Mississippi; Maidens of the Frontier; Colonial Dames; Exploration in Mississippi Territory; Out of the Wilderness, and Chartering the Colony. Programs were individual charters. Ten chapters were represented at the banquet.

Sunday’s ritual service, given by Beta Sigma’s officers, was followed by the impressive formal charter presentation and investiture of chapter officers by the national officers.

At the afternoon open house “for campus sorority and fraternity members, guests arrived *en masse*. . . . From the first they gave their complete cooperation, and best of all, their friendship.” Gratified and completely satisfied with the week end was Zeta’s discriminating President, who had so unstintingly poured her talents and time into the success of the Mississippi venture. Assured that “the campus grants us a very high place this minute,” she was repaid.

Thus Zeta came to Mississippi.

**GAMMA EPSILON:** The picture next shifted from Mississippi to a college in the mountains of Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania State College\* still surrounds the 200 acres in the Nittany Valley upon which the first buildings were built. Founded in 1855, when the General Assembly established a Farmers’ High School on land given by General James Irvin, the first sixty-nine boys traveled to the school’s lone building in a bobsled on February 20, 1859, to begin a course in farming. Two years later, eleven of them formed the first class ever to graduate from a purely agricultural school.

\* In its centennial year (1955) the name was changed to Pennsylvania State University.



The Civil War threatened its life, but the founders kept the college running until the Land Grant Act of 1862 put it on its feet again. The lowest ebb, in 1882, was overcome by the new president, Dr. George W. Atherton, and thereafter it prospered.

Women were admitted not long after the men. In 1883, "Ladies' Parlor Rules" were listed. They had a carefully segregated section all their own in Old Main.

Women's fraternities date from 1921 when women were allowed clubs, but not until 1926, as the result of a campus poll, were nationals permitted.

Zeta Tau Alpha's fourth chapter in Pennsylvania became a reality May 19-21, 1939, when the local group, Eukratia, became Gamma Epsilon chapter.

Eukratia, in turn, had a Zeta goal from the beginning, for it was established by Dorothy Gibbons (Gross), a transfer from Dickinson College who found herself on a campus where there was no Zeta chapter but where her loyal Zeta heart felt there should be one. So, with a seldom matched zeal and devotion, this intrepid member set about founding a group with the express purpose of petitioning Zeta Tau Alpha.

That the college had many rules and regulations governing the admission of new groups, and that there were many standards and formalities to be met, were challenges gladly accepted by Dorothy Gibbons in the furtherance of a broader goal. Working with her was the gracious dean of women, Charlotte E. Ray. Constant in wise counselling and cooperation was Dean Arthur R. Warnock,<sup>4</sup> whose brilliant direction of State's organizational affairs and knowledge of fraternities earned him a nationwide reputation. Thus, fortunate circumstances, outstanding leaders and a real opportunity for another woman's group at State College combined to bring about Gamma Epsilon.

In a masterpiece of over-simplification, the Zeta who led Eukratia from founding to installation characterized it as beginning "with three timid steps. (1) In January, 1938, I accepted the challenge offered by a campus which greatly felt the need of another national. (2) On February 4, 1938," she acquired three helpers "who then joined in a flurry of teas, parties, plans and selections which led to (3) the formal pledging breakfast on April 4," for eleven pledges.

The group now organized, it was convenient for Dorothy Gibbons to make an Easter visit to the First Vice-President who lived in New York City. "A week later," April 27-28, the National President, Louis Kettler Helper "visited en route to Gamma Beta's installation" just after they had pledged four other girls.

"Then on May Day, Eukratia made her official bow to the campus, sponsoring the successful All-College Social Hour, and at the same time began her year's probation as a local—a college requirement." And, before the close of the college year, Eukratia "secured a lovely suite in the brand-new dormitory," and added four pledges.

They felt honored on September 27 when Panhellenic invited Eukratia "to be the only local on the Council, and to participate in Stunt Night." They held "teas galore, parties and a glorious Christmas dance as the climax to our sale of seventy-two pounds of homemade holiday candy. Then . . . on to formal rushing." Next, they won the first-semester Panhellenic scholarship cup, had an inspirational visit January 25-26, 1939, from Doris Murray (Richmond), Gamma province president, that helped toward their successful rush season, and on March 15, their petition was forwarded to Zeta Tau Alpha.

"Days of agonized waiting" followed the formal inspection March 26-31 by Lucile Reece Roberts. The duration of their uncertainty was really short, for the acceptance telegram arrived on April 14. It was promptly followed by a "celebration breakfast."

Formal pledging of the group took place on May 7, 1939, when "about thirty members" of Dorothy Gibbons' "own Beta Beta and Harrisburg Alumnæ came for the White Dinner at Atherton Hall, the lovely service and the alumnæ tea which followed at the home of Blanche Myers (Peterson), Beta Upsilon." Then for two weeks, under the leadership of Nancy Searle (Bramble), Zeta, they studied for the fraternity examination.

Arriving on May 18, the installing officer, Mrs. Helper, attended the tea given by Mrs. James Howe (Lise Courtney, Beta Nu) for the alumnæ and installation initiates, as well as one given in her honor at the home of Mrs. Carl Schott, Alpha Delta Pi.

Her "dream came true" on Friday, May 19, for the girl whose unflagging devotion reaped its reward. Dorothy Gibbons breathlessly recorded "the beautiful services at the Reform Church from nine in the morning until midnight, the unexpected arrival of Dr. W. C. Roberts and Mrs. Roberts, the acres of flowers, the many Zeta guests, gifts, telegrams, and the midnight supper. . . ."

Gamma Epsilon's first twenty-seven initiates were: Alumnæ—Lena Carl (Gilbert), Emily Blackburn (Niesley), Marion Frederick (Haswell), Phyllis Kent Sprague, Zelda Wood (Stitt). College members—Jane Boller (Leahy), Betty Jane Crain (Reidenbaugh), Constance Glace (Roberts), Dawn Hardes (Tuttle), Dora Harner (Kohr), Marian Hartman (Follweiler), Beryl Hindman (Boerner), Katherine Osler (Horn), Ruth Houser (Gantos), Bessie Igoe (Miller), Alice Itter (Carter), Barbara Miller (Henry), Harriet Miller (Harris), Jean Porter (Kies), Kathryn Porter (McBeath), Dorothy Reeves (Hilgert), Dorothy Schnerr (Minelli), Madeleine Sinco, Ruth Wagner (Stoll), Ruth Weisgerber (Miller), Dorothy Wilson (Scheel), Muriel Willenbecher. Assisting Mrs. Helper were Doris Murray Richmond and the State College alumnæ.

"And glorious Saturday," they wrote. "The thrill of Shirley Krieg Strout's arrival—the breakfast at Lise Courtney Howe's, where she stayed—her campus visits with Mrs. Helper and their luncheon with us at Atherton." Not even a

thunderstorm marred the success of the campus reception and tea-dance held that afternoon at the Sigma Nu house.

The "flower garden banquet that night at the Nittany Lion Inn was a perfect climax. . . . Eighty Zetas from chapters everywhere enjoyed the turquoise and gray organdy sunbonnets, the hoe place cards, and the silver baskets of white violets announcing the program." Doris Richmond was the toastmistress.

The program was: "The Owners of the Garden, Our Founders," Doris Richmond; "The Eastern Garden, Gamma Province," Louise Wright; "The Garden of Today, Active Chapters," Natalie Durose (Coutant); "The Garden of Tomorrow, Pledge Chapters," Marian Hartman (Follweiler); "Today's White Violet, Gamma Epsilon," Dorothy Gibbons (Gross); "The Turquoise and the Steel Gray Award, Honor Initiates," Blanche Myers (Peterson); "Visitors in our Garden, Guests," Shirley Strout and Lucile Roberts; "The Garden Wall, Alumnae Chapters," Corinne Hamlett (Ferguson); "The Gardeners, Grand Chapter," Louise Helper.

"Then came Sunday with everyone in white at Nancy Bramble's, the installation service, the presentation of the charter to which artistic Louise Helper affixed the last names, the ritual service so beautifully done by Chi chapter, and finally the farewell luncheon at Sky Top. Corinne Ferguson's supper party for Mrs. Helper and Mrs. Strout ended the day. A luncheon given by Mrs. A. K. Anderson, Alpha Omicron Pi, honored them before they left."

The week end became a "rich and beautiful experience" to the inspired members of the group who had entrusted to them a new silver link—the seventy-eighth in the Zeta chain.

Zeta Tau Alpha was the ninth N.P.C. group on the campus.

**GAMMA ZETA:** After the establishment of the first chapter in Mississippi, the second one was not long in following. Actually, correspondence and plans ran concurrently for a time, and if all factors had permitted, both might have been installed the same year. As it was, Gamma Zeta followed the Ole Miss chapter by a year. And it owed its origin and existence to the same interested friend who, before he "left Evanston, Illinois, as secretary of Sigma Alpha Epsilon" had the announced intention of seeing southern-born Zeta Tau Alpha well established in the state of Mississippi.

The Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College came into being on February 28, 1878. Stephen Dill Lee, a Lieutenant General in the Confederate army, was the first president, when the college opened its doors in newly erected buildings near Starkville. The 350 students who enrolled that first year studied the same courses. The college grew and prospered under the guidance of General Lee. When he resigned in 1899, it was well established.

Soon after its admission to the Southern Association of Colleges in 1926, its



name was changed to Mississippi State College. Four years later, in 1930, the college became coeducational.

Until the fall of 1926, a faculty ruling prohibited the legal existence of fraternities. So did the state's 1912 anti-fraternity law. With the repeal of that law in 1926, Pi Kappa Alpha established a chapter in 1927. Kappa Alpha followed. Sigma Alpha Epsilon<sup>5</sup> revived its sub rosa chapter in 1932. Chi Omega, the only woman's fraternity on the campus when Zeta was installed, entered in 1936.

Eric Dawson thought there was room—and a need—for another group. "Early in 1937, when I was organizing some boys' groups at State College, I found I could also get together a group of girls," he wrote. He emphasized that he "organized this group for the express purpose of petitioning Zeta Tau Alpha." He "left some material with them, and promised to return the following week to complete the organization."

That organization meeting "with Mr. Eric Dawson, Sigma Alpha Epsilon" was held at 7:30 o'clock "on the night of February 8, 1937, when a group of girls met at the home of Meta Hightower," the chapter recorded. The charter members were Meta Hightower, president; Mary Gray Geiger, vice-president; Sylvia Feldman, Mary Bardwell, Evelyn Shropshire and Mary Emily Dudley. Delta Kappa was the name selected. Under the circumstances, naturally their "first thought was to petition a national sorority." By the second week, "rituals and a constitution were drawn up." A faculty wife, Mrs. H. M. Trent, was chosen as their adviser.

The college authorities welcomed the new Greek-letter group and allotted it a chapter room in Montgomery Hall. Soon three pledges were announced, followed by four others. This brought Delta Kappa's strength to a most satisfactory number for the size of the college's feminine population.

With Mary Bardwell as president, Delta Kappa emerged successfully from its first fall rushing season in 1937 with six pledges. A yearly custom was established when they adopted a needy family at Christmas time.

The new year—1938—was inaugurated by the addition of another pledge and the selection of Mrs. L. E. Miles, a faculty wife, as a sponsor. By this time they had built a strong background of loyal friends, for they announced that "she was joined in sponsorship by Mrs. Gordon Bryan, Mrs. C. R. Noble, Mrs. Augustin Magruder, Mrs. George Hightower, Mrs. Harry Bell, Mrs. J. B. Toler, Mrs. S. B. Hathorn and Mrs. Will Perkins"—all "wives of professors and wives of prominent townsmen."

Then in the spring, Mrs. Paul Dunn (Florence Williams, Beta Delta)—another faculty wife—"was contacted for advice and leadership in petitioning Zeta Tau Alpha." Although a full year had elapsed since Eric Dawson called the original group together, an unexpected and diverting development came

up almost immediately after the initial meeting and, as a consequence, no approach was made to Zeta Tau Alpha (for whom the group had been formed) in the intervening months. This called for clarification and a clear establishment of the group's nonobligated status to another organization before negotiations could proceed. The files reveal most interestingly Eric Dawson's background history and attestations at that time. Once determined satisfactorily, correspondence began.

They wrote Zeta's President on October 17 that they were "very much interested in petitioning Zeta Tau Alpha" and that Mrs. Dunn was "very much interested in our group." With enthusiasm mutual, that was the beginning of a sustained interest and devotion which intertwined Florence Dunn's name with Gamma Zeta's history for long years after she saw them reach their goal.

The month of May saw their "first installation-of-officers' banquet, held at the hotel, when Mary Bardwell was again installed as president." Meta Hightower was the vice-president, Jane Sheets the secretary and Bessie Baker the treasurer. Five names were added following fall rushing. Meanwhile, a purposeful correspondence was also paving the way for formal negotiations with the fraternity of their choice, and they recorded the fact that "Mrs. Harold Hill Helper, Grand President of Zeta Tau Alpha, kept in constant touch with Delta Kappa." In October, they sent their petition.

The thirteen who signed that petition were: Mary Bardwell, Jane Sheets, Meta Hightower, Bessie Baker, Beverly Didlake, Carolyn Turley, Mary Alice Oakes, Louise Gibson, Jessie Frazier, Margaret McWillie, Helen Oakes, Mabel Kaiser and Evelyn Cooper. It was dated October 27, 1938. Grand Chapter acted promptly.

From her home in New Orleans the President found it possible to make an early trip to Starkville for the first contact visit with Delta Kappa, and "an excited group of girls" anxiously awaited her arrival on November 30. "Each . . . wished . . . to be among the fortunate ones to carry her to lunch and introduce her to Mississippi State." Louise Helper "met their sponsors" at a banquet that night, after which they "talked far into the night," with "still more learned about Zeta" at the next day's officers' breakfast. Then she went away. Soon after, three pledges were added.

As the months slipped by, Zeta's full installation calendar had dates and time commandeered. On her way home from Gamma Delta's installation at Ole Miss, the National President again stopped to see the Delta Kappas—a brief but important visit. In July they had their "first summer rushing season" and Zeta Tau Alpha held a national convention which also had a bearing on their hopes. For, following action taken at the Grand Chapter meeting, joyous news reached the waiting Mississippians "just before the 1939 rush season began . . . that Zeta Tau Alpha was sponsoring Delta Kappa." Exuber-

ant, they declared that "no wonder Delta Kappa was able to put over the best rush program ever presented at State College." Eight pledges resulted, and "realizing the advisability of having more sponsors," invitations were extended to Mrs. E. H. Bailey, Mrs. T. A. Ridgers, Mrs. C. P. Bell, Jr., Mrs. Richard Hitt and Mrs. C. R. Pettis. The strengthening and advancing of their organization continued.

"Then one cold night in November," Mrs. Dunn asked them over for hot chocolate. But the cakes and chocolate were almost forgotten in the ensuing excitement "when she read the telegram announcing Delta Kappa's acceptance by Zeta Tau Alpha. At last our goal was reached," they wrote. The Grand Chapter meeting held that fall in Lexington, Virginia, made the charter grant.

Explaining the next step and a new procedure not yet familiar to the fraternity, Louise Helper wrote Florence Dunn on November 14, 1939, that "it has been our policy the last two years to hold pledging before initiation in order that the group may have an adequate period of pledge training."

Accordingly, Evelyn Hillin (Brelanski) and Doris Loflin (Cooke) came from Gamma Delta and on December 10, they and Florence Dunn pledged "seventeen college and alumnæ members." A coffee hour in the home of an alumna followed.

With the week end of April 19-21, 1940, came installation.<sup>6</sup> They wrote: "Friday finally came. It was a beautiful day in Mississippi! The campus was a riot of color with iris, roses and tulips blooming everywhere. Zetas began to pour in from Memphis, the University of Alabama, Centenary, Southwestern, Ole Miss and Newcomb. Our joy was complete when some of the Delta Kappa alumnæ arrived." Early arrivals were Martha Morrison (McLaughlin), National Field Secretary, and Harriette Frank, secretary of Beta province. Arriving Friday were Louise Helper, the installing officer; Grace Bennett (Chandler), president of Beta province; Ione Mayer (Howard), Beta Kappa, and Isabel Heckert (Kern), Beta Kappa.

Pledge services were held at two o'clock for Mary Bardwell (Kaiser), Jane Sheets, Sue Smith, Helen Oakes (Alford) and Carolyn Turley (Davis). Initiation ceremonies followed for Evelyn Cooper (Shuttleworth), Evelyn Hicks (Collier), Mabel Kaiser (Wilkins), Amy McLain, Margaret McWillie (Kénnard), Mary Alice Oakes (Black), and Polly Reed (Beavers). Mary Bardwell (Kaiser), Beverly Didlake (Groskind), Mary Alice White (Dodson), Jane Atkeson (Sheets), Eva Mae Manes (Trent), Mary Woolsey (Pettis), Rebecca Stodghill (Miles), Elise Dearman (Mapp), Inez Hardin (Bailey), Mildred Brumfield (Ward) and Elizabeth Montgomery (Noble) were the alumnæ initiated. Then there was a "midnight supper at Inez Bailey's."

Saturday was a whirl that started early. Chi Omega's Coca-Cola party—"a popular way of entertaining in the South," they explained—honored the new



Zetas the next morning. After that, "sixty of us descended on the Colonel Pettis home where our patronesses, Mrs. Charlie Bell, Mrs. Marcus Mapp, Mrs. L. E. Miles, and Mrs. Pettis had prepared a delightful luncheon." There was "a frenzied rush" to change to formal gowns for the two-thirty o'clock reception in the college cafeteria. In their hurry they forgot "the lace table cloth" and "at three-thirty the dance programs and date list" were not there, but "after a mad dash these necessary articles were placed in the hands of the proper persons . . . before the music started at four." They were very "proud of the visiting Zetas." And "there was the thrill of dancing for the first time to the strains of 'My ZTA Sweetheart.'"

"Mrs. Helper's inspiring message was the climax of the installation banquet" at the Chester Hotel that night. Hazel Ellis, Beta Omega, was the toastmistress. The Baby Cup from Gamma Epsilon was passed on to Gamma Zeta by Dorothy Gibbons (Gross), National Field Secretary. After the intermission party, at which Dr. Paul Dunn and Mrs. Dunn entertained the Zetas and Phi Kappa Taus, the Zetas were guests of that fraternity at their annual dance. They "were honored with a Zeta lead-out."

In the quiet of Sunday "Mrs. Helper presented Gamma Zeta's charter to the happiest group in the world." The ritual service and installation ceremony completed their induction into Zeta Tau Alpha. The seventy-ninth link was forged. And Zeta was well entrenched in Mississippi.

**GAMMA ETA:** It had been many years since Zeta Tau Alpha had placed a chapter in an urban university, but a state already well populated with Zeta chapters was to be further enriched by another charter grant, destined for a sixteen-year-old organization of high standing in Toledo.

The University of Toledo dates its beginning from October 21, 1872, when "Jessup W. Scott and wife deeded, in trust, one hundred and sixty acres of land in Adams township to the Toledo University of Arts and Trades" as the start of such a university. Raymond Hall was added by trustee purchase in 1873. Carrying out her deceased husband's intention to endow the institution, Mrs. Scott made another gift in 1874. Early in 1884 the trustees offered to turn over the university to the city, and their offer was accepted.

New departments were added almost annually and expansion was steady. By 1921 the amazing growth necessitated erection of a new building on the original Scott land. A bond issue of \$2,850,000 was approved in November, 1929, when, after a few years, the earlier quarters were outgrown. The building on West Bancroft Street which was to house university activities was completed and occupied in 1931. The enrollment was 5,000 when Zeta Tau Alpha entered the campus.

With the university's move "came the growth of more fraternal friendships,"

and that "relationship proved to be the inspiration for the founding of Tau Delta Sigma in February, 1931."

In January of that year a group of university women petitioned "for permission to found a sorority which would have official recognition on the campus. Having fulfilled all requirements and showing promise of a successful organization, the petition was granted . . . the founders were then free to organize" the desired sorority.

"The first official meeting was held on February 22, in the Student Lounge of University Hall." Temporary arrangements were made for future activities, and the officers elected were: Genevieve Edstrom, president; Bernice Griffith, vice-president; Bernice Husted, secretary; Marjorie Cauffiel, treasurer; Margaret McGuire, scribe, and Naomi Turnau, chaplain.

The purpose of the organization was "to perpetuate the bonds of friendship, to promote intellectual advancement and to further all university activities." They chose the gardenia as their flower. The colors were rose and silver. By unanimous choice, Dr. Estelle Hamilton was named their first adviser. "With the dean of women's approval and Dr. Hamilton's subsequent acceptance, Tau Delta Sigma was fully organized. Upon recognition, Mrs. H. H. M. Bowman and Mrs. Andrew J. Townsend became patronesses." Taking its place, the group successfully participated in a series "of social events . . . which contributed to its outstanding prestige on the campus."

Advisers and patronesses figured prominently in Tau Delta Sigma's history. In 1932, Mrs. O. Garfield Jones also became a patroness, while upon Dr. Hamilton's retirement in 1940, Mrs. Cornelius Brennecke became their adviser. When she left Toledo in 1943, she was succeeded by Miss Frances Chapman, who resigned in 1945. Miss Alice Huebner was the next adviser.

The chapter "always held high rank scholastically, having had several *summa cum laude* graduates." They were well represented in honorary groups, campus activities<sup>7</sup> and athletics. After sixteen years of steady growth and accomplishment, Tau Delta Sigma was well ready for national status.

"The first real contact which Tau Delta Sigma had with Zeta Tau Alpha," chronicled the Toledo girls, "came in August, 1946, when Mildred Cowell, Alpha Zeta, talked to one of the Tau Delts" and Anne Castator (Schuster), Theta, contacted their faculty adviser. But before that, Zeta alumnae in the city had been well aware of them—and favorably so, for the groundwork already had been laid for the events that thereafter moved along in smooth succession.

As Anne Schuster later wrote in *Themis*, she and Bettie Stitzlein (Andrew) went to the 1946 convention "for the express purpose of approaching the national officers on the subject of installing a chapter at the University of Toledo." Their mission accomplished, "they returned filled with great enthusiasm," for they "received much encouragement." They "immediately started

plans for contacting . . . Tau Delta Sigma, through their faculty adviser, Alice E. Huebner."

Soon after that, on August 11, Tau Delta Sigma honored the Toledo Alumnæ of Zeta Tau Alpha with a Sunday afternoon tea in the Student Union. The beautiful ZTA centerpiece on the tea-table was undoubtedly indicative of more than mild interest, and "the Zetas were much impressed with the girls, for they had poise and charm, and exhibited a whole-hearted interest in learning more about Zeta." The Tau Delta Sigmas, on the other hand, felt that the alumnæ came well prepared to charm them and turn their hopes Zeta-ward, and evidently they did, for "during the next two weeks" both the college chapter and alumnæ group held special meetings "at which it was decided that Zeta Tau Alpha was everything they wanted in a national." On August 29, their formal petition was submitted.

A date for the formal inspection was soon set and Helen Winton Jenkins, National Secretary-Treasurer, arrived on September 20. In addition to the usual conferences, the program included dinner with the girls, a tea at the home of Alice Huebner and Tau Delta Sigma's Sunday afternoon tea at the Student Union. The alumnæ of both Tau Delta Sigma and Zeta Tau Alpha were guests..

Although word of their acceptance came within a week (on September 29, via a long distance call), the petitioners "were in a constant state of suspension waiting for an announcement." After learning "that a charter had been granted . . . their most difficult job was to keep the news secret until pledging, when the announcement would be made through the *Campus Collegian*." However, they kept the secret until October 4, when a "surprised and pleased" college learned that they had "gone Zeta."

Pledging was held October 3 at the home of Mildred Moffett (Calaway), Alpha Eta, for twenty-three college members and their adviser. The following Wednesday, pledging took place for twenty-three alumnæ in the chapel of the Y.M.C.A. Anne Castator (Schuster), Theta; Annis Frederickson, Beta Eta; Grace Frye (Ardner), Alpha Omega, and Virginia Brown, officiated at both services.

While the college members participated in "a month of intensive pledge training . . . the pledges worked with the Zeta alumnæ on plans for installation." With that event only a little over a month away, a large and well staffed alumnæ committee worked diligently to perfect all details and surmount difficulties that presented themselves because of the shortness of the time.

When Wanda Garver, Chapter Counselor, "arrived on November 8 to help them organize into the Zeta way of doing things," the alumnæ were as glad to see her as the college girls. "She was an inspiration," they all agreed.

Initiation services, "which began Friday morning, November 15, and lasted



until Friday night" were held in St. Mark's Episcopal<sup>s</sup> Church. Forty-nine were initiated. College members included: Gloria Burke, Betty Campbell, Lenore Carstensen, Phyllis Damm, Gloria Darah, Jean Gilbert (Rehn), Mary Jay, Rosemary Lorenzen, Dorothy MacKenzie, Doris Matthews, Marguerite Moore (Backus), Mary Proeschel, Jacqueline Ramisch, Rose Mary Ruff, Donna Rutan, Betty Smith (Proschek), Betty Staneart, Ruth Weber, Jeanette Willis. Alumnæ initiated were: Carol Belle Alexander, Eileen Brown (Belnap), Betty Jane Brown (Brummitt), Beverly Jackson (Cartwright), Margaret Gordon (Davey), Jacqueline Denzig, Florence Peterson (Ensign), Grace Marquardt (Fulghum), Lois Egger (Gladfelter), Pauline York (Hannum), Barbara Sigler (Harris), Lisa Herrman (McVicken), Margaret Higgins, Betty Jane Jewhurst, Selma R. Jones (Patterson), Rose Sturniolo (Lega), Dorothy Long (Jefferys), Flora Jean Atwater (McCullough), Margaret McGuire (Leahey), Janice Ettenhofer (Morse), Gunborg Peterson (Nolin), Lois Prange, Evelyn Ridenour, Edith Schnetzler (Rud), Barbara Gibbons (Scharer), Ruth Steele (Rex), Suzanne Jones (Stewart) and Millie Ann Waltz (Wittenberg). Alice Huebner and Edna Lockwood (Bowman) were the installation initiates. Officiating at the services were Treva Mae Allen Seepe, Second Vice-President; Marion Wingate Palin, Alumnæ Director; Helen Winton Jenkins, Secretary-Treasurer; Wanda Garver, Chapter Counselor; Jeanette Bertram Chapman, president of Delta province, assisted by Nina Henry Sherman, Alpha Kappa, Jean Megerle Stivers, Phi, and Betty Jane Morris, Alpha Eta. "A delicious lunch was served" at the informal gathering following the long day of initiating.

Saturday's individual conferences were held with the visiting officers at the Hillcrest Hotel. The White Violet Installation Banquet held that night at the hotel "was perfect." The guest speaker, Honor Gregory (House), Alpha Delta, "was inspiring," and Jeanette Chapman "was charming as the toastmistress." Other speakers were Mrs. Palin, Mrs. Seepe, Mrs. Andrew, president of the Toledo Alumnæ, and Jean Gilbert, Gamma Eta's vice-president.

The Sunday morning installation service held at the Student Union added Gamma Eta's link—the eightieth—to the chapter chain. As "the climax to a perfect week end" some three hundred guests attended the all-campus formal reception held at the Student Union that afternoon. In the receiving line were Dean Katherine Easley, Betty Campbell, Mrs. Seepe, Mrs. Palin, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Andrew, Miss Huebner, Mrs. Bowman, and Mrs. Townsend.

Flowers and congratulations poured in as Zeta's seventh chapter in the state of Ohio was established. Zeta Tau Alpha was the seventh N.P.C. fraternity to enter Toledo.

**GAMMA THETA:** Turning to the West for the first time in many years, Zeta Tau Alpha entered the University of Colorado via the colonization route.

When Golden, Colorado, played host to a convention which nominated the first territorial legislature of 1862, Mr. Charles Holly, a resident of Gold Hill, was elected by a group who supported his nomination with the understanding that, once in office, he would try to secure passage of a bill designating Boulder as the site of a state university. Mr. Holly kept his promise.

Although the citizens of Boulder donated property valued at \$10,000, there was no capital available for the erection of buildings when the first board of trustees met on January 29, 1870. Two petitions to the legislature were necessary before it granted building funds of \$15,000, with the provision that Boulder residents duplicate the amount. The citizens did better than that—they donated \$16,656.66. Completed in 1877, the cornerstone of Old Main, the first building, was laid on September 17, 1875. The legislature then provided for the election of regents by state vote, and appropriated sufficient funds to furnish and start the new university. Dr. Joseph A. Sewell became the first president, and classes began in 1878, with an enrollment of twelve freshmen.

From the start the university grew steadily, adding more buildings and increasing enrollments to a pre-war (1941) capacity of 3,000 students. But "war-and peace-time emergencies" had raised the enrollment "to approximately 9,000 students" when Zeta Tau Alpha entered the campus. Cool, high and scenic, Colorado always attracted a large number of summer students from Texas and other states.

Although many Zetas had been transfers on this campus, and previous expansion plans had interested the pre-1941 Grand Chapter, nothing permanent developed. So 1947 found Boulder without a Zeta chapter. Convinced that there was not only a need for another group but also plenty of room for one, the Denver Alumnae were eager to give a colonization project complete cooperation, and they urged such action in enthusiastic, persuasive letters that achieved affirmative national action.

To Wanda Garver, Chapter Counselor, went the assignment and challenge of organizing the new group. Arriving in Denver on March 4 en route to Boulder, she left for the university late that afternoon, fortified with a list of some forty recommended names, given to her during the morning conference with the Colorado state membership chairman, Roberta Whitworth Warner,<sup>9</sup> Alpha Upsilon, and Stella Moore (McNamara), Beta Eta, at the latter's home. Good preparatory groundwork had been laid.

A paralyzing telephone strike that started soon after the colonizer's arrival and continued until late in May, saw to it that developments could not proceed with dispatch. For there could be no dispatch when all calls had to be made in person. So the quarter ended and the frustrated colonizer spent the vacation in Denver where, for the first time, she "met the marvelous Denver Alumnae chapter with which [she] was to work so closely the next three months." She

returned to Boulder ten days later "with renewed enthusiasm." Then "the real job began."

During a visit of the First Vice-President, Marion Withrow, soon after the new quarter began, a suitable house was found for the chapter still in the process of formation. It was a fraternity house in "an ideal location, then being operated as a men's boarding-house." They felt fortunate when "temporary arrangements were made for the Zetas to live there in September."

But competition was keen, for two other groups were organizing at the same time. Mary Ann Barlow, Epsilon, chapter co-organizer, arrived to join the colonizer. "By the middle of April, fourteen pledges were wearing the Zeta ribbons and plans had been formulated" for formal pledging.

On the morning of April 27, pledge services were held at the Kappa Kappa Gamma house with Wanda Garver officiating. She was assisted by De Lois Craddock Nelson, Omega, and the Denver alumnae. At the introductory tea that afternoon at the Alpha Phi house, "the pledges formed a receiving line headed by Mrs. McNamara, to greet the guests and receive compliments and best wishes from other groups and representatives of the campus and university." The faithful Denver alumnae were there "*en masse* to help make the function a success."

Gamma Theta was then ready to start functioning. "With the organization<sup>10</sup> of this nucleus, pledge training began," rush parties were planned to increase the number and there was "much business." The new pledges rushed "like veterans" and "alumnae from Denver frequently made the trip to Boulder to rush right along with us.

"After three successful rush parties, eight new pledges were added" and since the year was drawing to a close (it was the middle of May) "it was time to make definite plans about a house for the next college year." Those arrangements were made when the Finance Chairman, Lavone Dooley, "arrived to handle negotiations."

The first officers elected were: president, Barbara Funk; vice-president, Norma Simonds; secretary, Jeanne Coughanour; treasurer, Barbara Bassett; historian, Marjorie Carroll; rush chairman, Suzanne Schumacher. Later Joan Seefus took over the duties of historian, and after formal pledging, Theo Kapelke became rush chairman.

Then, on another Sunday morning, May 25, formal pledge services were again held at the hospitable Kappa Kappa Gamma house. Wanda Garver, assisted by De Lois Nelson, pledged the eight new girls. After the ceremonies, the Denver Alumnae entertained "the girls and their dates at a picnic at Sunshine Canyon." This group of twenty-two pledges, who had big-sisters from among the Denver Alumnae, received Zeta stationery and ZTA recognition pins from them that Sunday. And they were going to have use for them, for the year was ending and the group was scattering for the summer.



The summer bulletins that went out to the Colony members told them that Lila Vorgang, Alpha Xi, would be with them the coming year as Chapter Counselor. By September 22, all twenty-two pledges "reported to 1019 Fourteenth Street," to prepare for one of the most strenuous of rush weeks. Two transfers, Carrie Dorsey, Alpha Phi, and Jeanne Bird, Omega, augmented the number. With them also was Wanda Garver, who had become the National Field Secretary.

"Twelve of the charter members, however, could hardly wait to find out if initiation ceremonies would take place before the formal rush week began." When they learned that the date was imminent, their reaction was that "they had never been more happy or more nervous." It did not go unnoted that the date coincided with the fifty-second anniversary of the university's founding.

"On the evening of September 17, 1947, Gamma Theta of Zeta Tau Alpha officially came into being with the initiation of the twelve eligible pledges, and Eleanor Wheelock (Re Pass), the first installation initiate. Those initiated were: Barbara Bassett, Jeanne Coughanour, Barbara Funk, Yvonne Goodier, Theo Kapelke, Marilyn Miller, Suzanne Shumacher, Joan Seefus, Norma Simonds, Delma Slater, Shirley Woods and Joan Wylie. Wanda Garver, the officiating officer, was "assisted by several members of the Denver Alumnæ chapter." The services were held in the Congregational Church.

During the next ten days of strenuous rushing<sup>11</sup> the new chapter competed with eleven other Panhellenic groups, ten of which had been well established for years. "Sixteen top pledges" attested their success.

Turning to Homecoming, Gamma Theta received its first gold cup when the chapter placed second in the float contest. From a field of two hundred contestants, Joanne Glidden, its candidate for queen, became one of the five finalists, and was in the queen's court.

Installation of the chapter was nearing, but the wait seemed long to the eager girls and their colonizer. As Wanda Garver expressed it, "there was so much to be done in preparation, but even that didn't make the time go faster. Finally, the morning of the seventh dawned crisp and clear, and there was a high wind blowing to greet the five national officers who came to take part in our festivities": Helen Harrison, National President; Marion Withrow, First Vice-President; Helen Winton Jenkins, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley K. Strout, Editor-Historian; and Lucile Reece Roberts, N.P.C. Delegate. The colonizer herself made the sixth national officer present. Contemplating that array of officialdom, Gamma Theta declared itself "flattered and honored."

Friday, November 7, saw the initiation of Florence Crannel (Means) and Mary Ford (Storke), installation initiates, and the pledging of another girl. A brilliant formal reception that evening in the ballroom of the Memorial Student Union introduced the chapter and the national officers to the university. President Robert Stearns and Mrs. Stearns were among the distin-

guished guests and well-wishers signing the register that night. That "exciting day" ended on an informal note, when the chapter members entertained the national officers at the house. A skit and relaxed socializing provided an opportunity for getting better acquainted.

The formal installation of Gamma Theta chapter and the induction of officers was held Saturday afternoon, November 8, at the Congregational Church. Helen Harrison, the presiding officer, was assisted by Marion Withrow and the other national officers present. "The services were very beautiful and left a distinct impression on everyone," the chapter historian recorded.

Then, by private cars and chartered bus, the Zetas left for Denver and the installation banquet at the Park Lane Hotel. "It was breath-takingly beautiful," Wanda Garver wrote. "The table decorations were superb, with masses of white flowers and candles in graduated candelabra. There was a corsage of chrysanthemums for each chapter member, while for each National Council member an orchid was accompanied by a note individually written by the alumnae. Hand-painted place cards and handmade favors completed the picture."

With Lucile Roberts as toastmistress, the White Violet Banquet program unfolded in a glowing setting of candlelight and white. Toasts<sup>12</sup> were given by Miss Harrison, Mrs. Withrow, Mrs. Jenkins, Barbara Funk and Marjorie Carroll. "Shirley Strout gave the moving and inspirational banquet speech." Last of all, Wanda Garver presented the Baby Cup to the chapter she had brought into being, and eighty-three Zetas left with charmed memories etched in their hearts.

As Gamma Theta's happy week end came to a close, "the chapter returned to Boulder inspired to greater heights and determined to live up to the great expectations which had been set for them, not only at the banquet but by the whole fraternity." Their resolve was to keep the eighty-first link "a strong one in the strong chain of Zeta chapters."

### Supplementary Notes

1. Eric Dawson, former executive secretary and editor of *The Record* of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, was a staunch Mississippi man himself, and a former faculty member.

2. "Fraternalities early found their way to the campus," Eric Dawson wrote. "In 1848, the year its doors opened, Delta Tau Delta\* was founded there. Three years later Delta Kappa Epsilon placed its seventh chapter, and later came a host of fraternities, conservative and progressive. . . . There are six sororities at Ole Miss. One of Chi Omega's earliest chapters was chartered there. Delta Gamma was founded at a girls' school in Oxford, and now has a chapter at Ole Miss. Delta Delta Delta, Phi Mu, Delta Zeta and Kappa Delta complete the list."

3. Picturing the locale, Louise Helper reminisced that "Mississippi has been able to retain a rare combination of gracious living—to have time for friends and neighbors—and with little

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\* According to *Baird's Manual*, The Rainbow Fraternity, founded in 1846 at the University of Mississippi, united with Delta Tau Delta in 1886.

of the hurry and strife of modern living. Yet it has kept faith with the progress and forward march of a changing world. It is a lovely combination of quiet aristocracy and intelligent progress."

4. Dean Warnock, Beta Theta Pi, formerly assistant dean of men at the University of Illinois, had long been a friend of one of Zeta Tau Alpha's national officers, through whom he had become acquainted and favorably inclined toward the fraternity.

5. In 1893 the college authorities discovered the existence of a sub rosa chapter which had been established in 1888. The members were expelled.

6. During its comparatively short existence, many honors came to the "group as a whole and as individuals." With high grades, many were in honoraries. Three Delta Kappas headed the Y.W.C.A. ("the only co-ed organization on the campus"), with Mary Alice Oakes as president. They had beauties, a Homecoming sponsor and a cheerleader. However, "about forty per cent are homemakers now," they wrote in 1940.

7. To name a few—in 1937 Betty Cosgrove was elected president of the Women's Association. According to campus rules this "gave her the coveted honor of May Queen." Oakley Rogers was the first "Carol Co-ed," the editor of a column of campus activities published in *The Toledo Sunday Times*—an activity still held by the group in 1947. Oakley Rogers was also editor-in-chief of the university yearbook, *The Blockhouse*, another high honor, "especially for a girl." Jean Douglas was an editor for the weekly *Campus Collegian*. Gloria Burke was managing editor and feature editor in 1947. In 1936 and 1937, Tau Delta Sigma won the inter-sorority basketball championship. Barbara Sigler (Harris) became president of the Women's Athletic Association in 1940.

8. By request, Toledo sororities had temporarily relinquished their apartments to faculty members in need of housing, but the problem of finding a suitable location for the ceremonies was solved by the *alumnæ*.

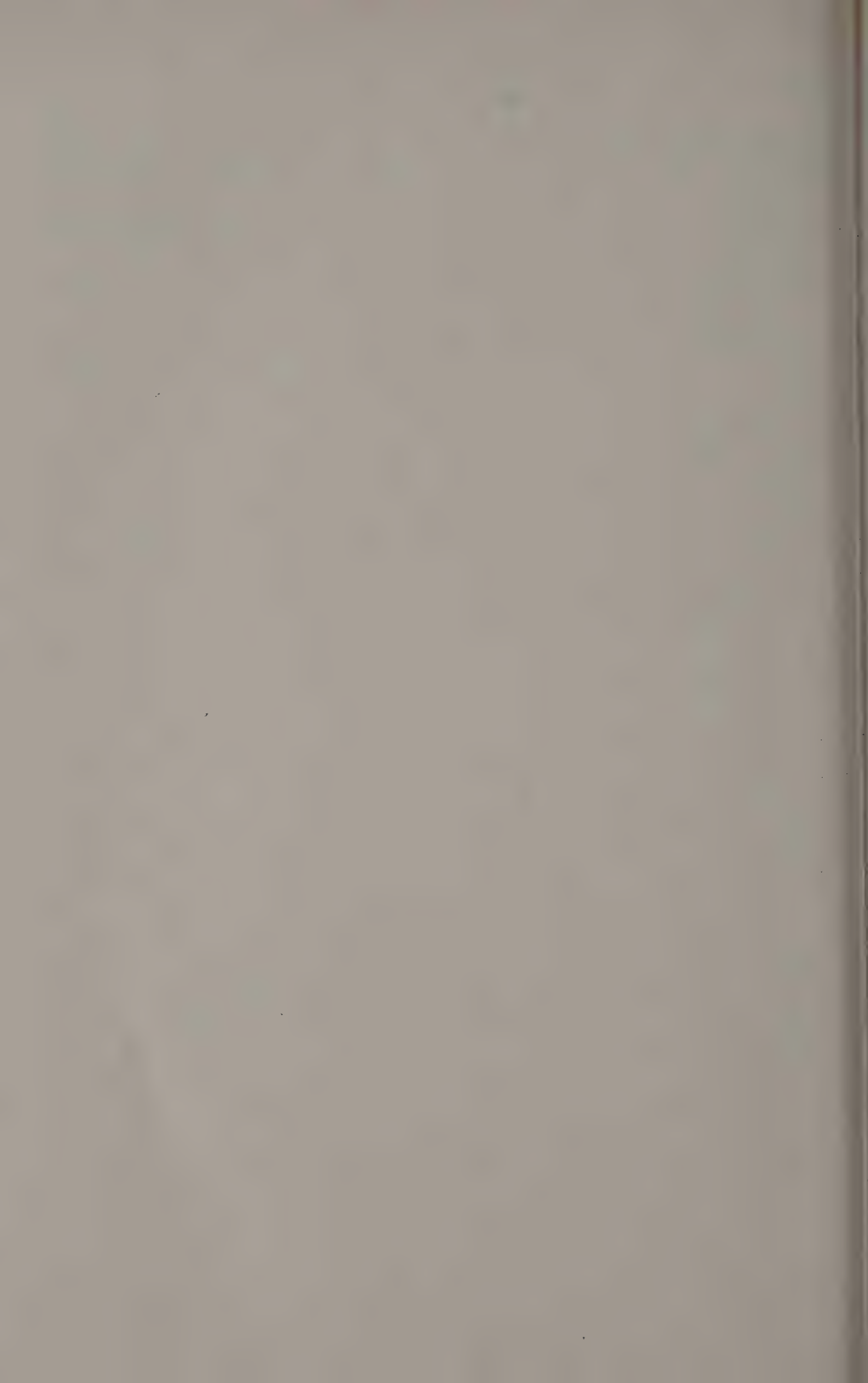
9. "Without her unquenchable spirit and selfless assistance, Gamma Theta would not have become a reality," the colonizer said later about Roberta Warner. Wanda Garver lunched "with five *alumnæ*" that day, then the campus situation was further discussed at the home of Mabel Leininger (Stanley), Alpha Epsilon, "who first realized the need for another group at Colorado."

10. Definite parts in the organization of the chapter were credited to "Miss Mary-Ethel Ball, dean of women, who, from the beginning, did all in her power to assist us," and to Mrs. W. B. Pietenpol, executive secretary of Panhellenic, "who was a constant guide, help and inspiration." The "kind gestures and cooperation of the college Panhellenic and the individual chapters on the campus" were remembered, as was the cordiality of the two Panhellenic presidents, Mamie Chase, Delta Delta Delta, and Carolyn Smith, Alpha Phi.

11. The group launched its first season of formal rushing with the best wishes of all the other organizations on the Colorado campus. "Never . . . was any fraternity started with more good will than Gamma Theta of Zeta Tau Alpha," the chapter historian wrote.

12. Marian Johnson Castle, Tau, novelist and writer of note, with a speaking ability no less facile than her pen, charmed her audience when she responded to Shirley Strout's introduction of her.





## Conventions

### *Grand Chapter and National Council Meetings*

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#### The Sixteenth National and Fifth International Convention

IN 1939 the Zetas set forth eagerly for the crossroads of the Great Lakes and the sparkling island of Mackinac "where automobiles are prohibited and where the horse and buggy still reign supreme." Mackinac and the stately Grand Hotel provided a magnificent setting for the sixteenth national and fifth international convention held June 8-13.

As the *Algoma II* neared Mackinac, its eager passengers saw a little island only three miles in diameter, set in the blue waters of the Straits, with green palisades and broad slopes forming a perfect setting for the white colonial buildings interspersed about the island. And the outside world seemed to slip away as they neared the dock with its horse-drawn drays and the waiting line of horses and carriages. Someway, the welcoming Zeta bicycle brigade, bolstered by the every-present hotel orchestra, merged into the picture, too, even as they were caroling "Delta province welcomes you."

Clippity-clopping up the hill toward the immense colonnade of the great white hotel, the carriage caravan with its bicycle escort rounded the final curve with a flourish, and rode down an avenue of flags flying from majestic mast-heads over the approach to the hotel. At the porte-cochère they clambered down from the unaccustomed vehicles and walked over rich red carpet, up the broad steps, past borders of brilliant red geraniums to the longest porch in the world. And there they were. Ahead, the "registration tables stretched down the expansive lobby."

In a setting of yesterday, convention's theme was *Today*. The first conclave in the fifth decade, the tempo and tone were as buoyant as the whole meeting was streamlined and paced "in the modern manner." From the start it was wrapped in music, inspired by singing, and theme-songed by a rushing song set to the tune of "Wishing," which was finally chosen as the Zeta "theme song for the next two years between conventions."

Preceding convention was the usual Grand Chapter meeting, attended by

Louise Kettler Helper, President; Elizabeth Steinhauer (Ott), First Vice-President; Lucile Reece (Roberts), Second Vice-President; May Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Krieg (Strout), Editor-Historian. And, an established custom by now, a school for province presidents<sup>1</sup> was held the day before convention opened.

The Gamma series of chapters made its début at Mackinac with the introduction of five new chapters—Gamma Alpha, Gamma Beta, Gamma Gamma, Gamma Delta and Gamma Epsilon.

Said *Themis*: "Business sessions—probably the *raison d'être* of conventions—clicked along on time, with all business wound up on the dot at the final sessions."

Writing in *The Chain*, Lillian Short Morse, chairman of the National Constitution Committee, explained that, "In keeping with Zeta Tau Alpha's forward-moving policy, some pertinent changes were made in the governmental setup. . . ."

The word pertinent might be considered an understatement, for something drastically different in the constitutional field appeared at the very start, when it was voted "that page 37 of the By-Laws, Article VIII, section 2, which reads: 'Not more than two articles of the constitution and by-laws may be amended at any one biennial convention,' shall be set aside for this, the 1939 convention, in order that additional changes may be made and that such changes be considered trial amendments for a period of two years." Then a list of those trial amendments for the two-year period was promptly presented and adopted.

After a year's successful trial, the new division of duties between the Vice-Presidents as worked out at the 1938 Grand Chapter meeting was brought to the floor. As one of the trial amendments, each of the two Vice-Presidents was to "be in charge of both active and alumnæ chapters in a section of the country designated by Grand Chapter. Whenever possible, the Vice-Presidents were to be elected from provinces geographically separated." With this constitutional blessing, the former experimental plan was well on its way to its later-day permanency.

An important change was the provision to increase the number of Field Secretaries. "The advantage of this can readily be seen, for a Field Secretary can now spend a longer time with a chapter when needed," *Themis* explained later. The number was to be determined by Grand Chapter and the Finance Committee. "The Field Secretary [was to] act as chairman of the Ritual Committee, composed of two alumnæ members well versed in fraternity matters and especially fitted to revise the ritual."

"To be appointed March 1 of each convention year," the Nominating Committee became a convention committee, rather than a standing committee, as it formerly had been.

Making it nonobligatory for the Grand President to act as the official dele-



gate, another change provided that she "shall attend the National Panhellenic Congress, and may be the official delegate."

A new nominating committee for province elections, after communicating with college and alumnae chapters, was to comb through suggested names and qualifications. The selected names were then to be submitted for Grand Chapter's approval. The approved nominees would be the candidates for the two province offices. The new province president, who was not to take office until the first day of the next national convention, was to be known as the province-president-elect. Highly experimental was that innovation. Grand Chapter was also to present, as a suggestion, a uniform plan for province conventions. Provinces were to exchange their convention minutes, and a "uniform system of financial records and bank statements, audited annually by the national organization" was approved.

Through an insertion in the eligibility clause entitled "province honor initiates," it was possible hereafter to include outstanding local women, or former pledges "who have proven their worth and continued interest in the fraternity." Grand Chapter and the province president were to do the balloting, and no former pledge was eligible until she had been out of college two years. The initiation fee was the same as for college chapters. "Installation initiates at the time of an installation of a college chapter," were also defined.

Alumnae dues were raised to \$2 and alumnae were to receive a dues-requesting letter from Central Office, while chapters were required to send their alumnae two news-letters a year. The alumnae section of *The Link* was to "carry a report of Health Center activities, including narrative and financial data."

The 1937 convention empowered "Grand Chapter to work out a plan of rotation . . . which will provide for a convention in 1948 . . . our golden anniversary year." The 1938 Grand Chapter meeting worked out such a plan, namely, "that conventions be held at two-year intervals and that the three-year period be that from 1945-1948." Convention adopted it, but World War II was to upset it.

"This year's innovation," *Themis* wrote, "was a day's training school for province presidents preceding convention, as well as the usual day following convention devoted to that purpose. Pencils went flying as members of Grand Chapter turned instructors." And a trial amendment stipulated that the "retiring Grand President conduct a training school . . . for province presidents and Field Secretaries on the day or days immediately preceding or immediately following national convention."

Regarded apprehensively since 1933, but not deleted until this time, was the requirement that the chairman of the Finance Committee be a graduate in accounting, bookkeeping and banking. It was changed to read, "the members of the Finance Committee shall have a knowledge of banking, accounting, investments and law."



Helen Margaret Harrison

"Every chapter [was to] have a visit from some grand officer at least once in three years."

Formerly a five-member group, the House Advisory Committee was to have three members possessing "a practical knowledge of fraternity houses, and whenever possible one shall be an architect and one an interior decorator." Their duties were "to approve lots, chapter houses, lodges, apartments and furnishings, before same may be purchased, erected or rented."

"Any alumnae member who has earned twenty points as given in the

*Manual*," was to be awarded an honor ring. Grand Chapter was to decide the points.

The Grove Park Inn, Asheville, North Carolina, was selected as the site of the next convention.

Grand officers elected were: Louise Kettler (Helper), President; Lucile Reece (Roberts), First Vice-President;<sup>2</sup> Helen M. Harrison, Second Vice-President; May E. Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley K. Krieg (Strout), Editor-Historian.

"The Historical Exhibit that proved so popular" seemed convincing that "Zetas of forty-one years ago weren't so different from present-day ones . . . with a readily seen similarity between Miss Zeta of 1898 and Miss Zeta of 1939," wrote Lois Tapert (Dordan). With several additions, the National Historian presented the "treasured collection" for the second time. Marion Mayer (Bergin) had a comprehensive college chapter exhibit, Betty Ott had a splendid alumnae exhibit, while "Mabel Weeter's Health Center exhibit was again a



FIELD SECRETARIES. Left to right: Margarethe Faulstich Livesay, Martha Morrison McLaughlin, Shirley Baird Rawlinson

center of attraction, as is always true of the Virginia display."

Marine-minded was *The Chain*<sup>3</sup> this time, for it was printed on St. Ignace Island, where lived the nearest printer, and its publication became a challenge of choppy waters, making (and sometimes missing) the last boat transporting copy from Mackinac to the printer at St. Ignace. Hectic, but sometimes hilarious, was the life of the editor and a staff working under handicapping conditions, when not only deadlines but weather had to be reckoned with. The paper was again financially successful.

The editorial "crew" listed for the boat-riding *Chain* were: Lois Tapert (Dordan), Beta Tau; Rhoda Mace (Engle), Beta Epsilon; Dorothy Reeves (Hilgert), Gamma Epsilon; Frances Kennerly (Morton), Beta Lambda; Helen Brown (Keithley), Beta Upsilon; Hazel Caulkin, Beta Tau; Frances Shafer; Jean Clark; Dorothea Smith, Beta Phi; with Dorothy Gibbons (Gross), Beta Beta-Gamma Epsilon, as assistant to the editor, Shirley Krieg Strout. Dr. Frances MacCraken, Beta Tau, business manager, was assisted by Annabel Palmer, Alpha Rho; Nelda Johnson, and Georgia Vorgang (Kovacic), Alpha Xi.

Convention's social side began to unfold soon after the *Algomah's* arrival. "Behind a cool green arbor" in the dining-room, "the cheery Hello Luncheon" was welcomed by Delta province's omnipresent chorus and given blue and silver songbook favors.

Tea in the formal gardens that afternoon found "all the Zetas looking like a page from *Vogue*, the orchestra playing, the dancers flitting about." Tea favors were crested napkins.

Befitting the setting and nearness to the Border was the festive "opening banquet . . . with its tiny flags, candles, hand-painted figures and etched menus, all carrying out the red, white and blue theme of international friendship." Akron Alumnae were in charge. Completely different from the usual pattern of banquet entertainment was the hotel's "fast moving floor show [that] continued throughout the dinner." After that everyone went on to the reception where everyone met Grand Chapter officially and got acquainted with each other. "Then, the movies . . . a full day." Especially so for the Constitution Council (then still called Grand Council), which began late meetings to decide which constitutional recommendations would hear themselves read from the floor.

"Next, all color fades," wrote Dorothy Gibbons Gross, "for the scenes are of Sunday in the loveliness that only pure white can lend." The beautiful early-morning memorial service was conducted by Lois Powell, Alpha Tau, in the little stone Congregational Church down the hill. Twenty-six Zetas<sup>4</sup> had joined Silent Chapter since the last convention.

Then "breakfast—with the scrolls containing our *Creed*"—the noon pledge service (given by Shirley Hocking (Broome) and Mary Morrison (Craig), Alpha Kappa), for Katherine Hoffman (Shideler)—the official picture with everyone in glistening white, followed by the Loyalty Luncheon, honoring Zeta relatives.



Lovely turquoise autograph books would keep this day a memory always."

Another picture out of yesterday was the afternoon horse-and-buggy tour of the island, through quiet, cool woodlands, past Fort Mackinac, Arch Rock and beautiful homes, which entranced, relaxed and "jogged everyone into a general state of sleepiness."

"The dazzling white dinner" that night was a picture of beauty in white as formal attire replaced day clothes. There were "framed coat-of-arms favors, a friendly talk by Katherine Shideler, and a birthday tribute to Betty Ott," whose birthday fell on that day.

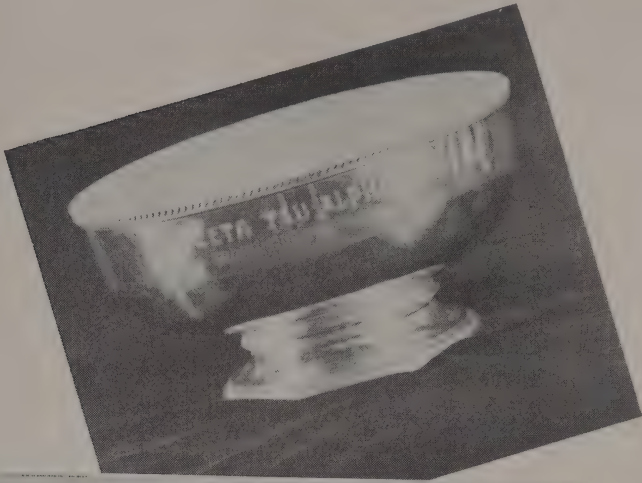
Then "as a beautiful climax," the unforgettable model initiation ceremony conducted by Grand Chapter<sup>5</sup> in the little stone church was "made doubly impressive by the place in which it was held. . . . A departure from the past, the little church provided a setting of solemnity and impressiveness. And, in the cool of the clear northern night, the long lines of Zetas in their white evening gowns going down the hill made a picture that neither Mackinac nor the Zetas themselves will ever forget. The officiating officers and Katherine Shideler were taken to the church in Mr. Woodfill's private carriage and the hotel's picturesque, historic bus. Others rode down in rolling chairs, while the majority preferred the short walk in the still loveliness of the starlit night." Model ritual, following initiation, was given by Helen Wilson (Dietz), Chi; Loisbelle Prior (Porter), Chi; Mary Catherine Kirk (Crawford), Alpha Xi; Gladys Northquist (Applegate), Alpha Phi. Marion Mayer (Bergin) had charge of the day's ritualistic services.

Mabel Slout Weeter, national philanthropic chairman, and Mary Porter (McCorkle), Lambda, were the speakers at Monday's alumnae luncheon. The tables bore "huge blue cellophane balls attached to just as huge gray tags that said, 'to Zeta alumnae from Health Center.'" The Detroit Alumnae were in charge.

"Rushing in all kinds of talks and skits" was the perennially interesting evening program. Marion Mayer Bergin, who planned and directed the program, was the mistress of ceremonies. Seating by provinces featured the province dinner that night, with a "clever map of Delta province gracing the head table." And "endless blue and gray chains strung down each table disclosed truly 'sweet' favors—chocolates." Beta Phi and Lansing Alumnae handled the dinner.

The Gamma series delegates sat at the speakers' table, "proud as punch," at Tuesday's chapter luncheon, "bowing as Louise Helper introduced them. Martha Morrison (McLaughlin), Alpha Kappa, conducted her 'Klass of the Air' on chapter knowledge."

The lake sparkled in the background and the July evening was cool and perfect for the picnic that put the Zetas in play clothes and whetted appetites for picnic food. Delta province won the singing prize and there were snake-dancing, jitterbugging, and marshmallow roasting. A "happy birthday to you"



Above: OF OLD ENGLISH design, the graceful Grand Chapter Award was presented for the first time at the Mackinac convention. After 1941 it became known as the Achievement Award. Below: AT CONVENTION, when the trophy was presented, it was filled with tall blue delphinium. Later, Alpha Pi had it photographed with an arrangement of fall flowers, and sent the picture for the November, 1939, issue of *Themis*.

chant serenaded the Editor-Historian when an elaborately decorated birthday cake was presented to her in that picnic setting.<sup>6</sup>

"Right in the center of Wednesday's picture radiates a vivid sunflower pin, reminder of the Panhellenic Luncheon which must have kept Alpha Gamma and the Ann Arbor Alumnæ snipping and pasting for many a day." Dorothy Longmire (Warlick), Zeta, presided, and "ten Zeta Panhellenic presidents beamed from the head table."

The five-pointed crown and the chain of silver links at the speakers' table reflected the stateliness of the blue and silver room on the night of the final banquet. Candlelighted tables displayed crested link bracelets nestling by blue and silver crown programs at every place. With Dorothy Swaney Hillix as toastmistress, the crown-and-link theme was carried out in the program. The Crown toast—to the Founders—was given by Lillian Short (Morse), Mu. The Link toasts—to the chapters—were given by Rossman Taylor, Delta, the first links; Alpha links, by Nelda Johnson, Alpha Xi; Beta links, by Virginia Moore, Beta Alpha; the Gamma links, by Betty Stark (Fletcher), Gamma Gamma.

The room grew very quiet. Louise Helper rose to announce the awards. The lustrous Grand Chapter Award was being presented for the first time, and everyone was pleased that its donor was the banquet's toastmistress. Alpha Pi was the first chapter to win the glistening trophy—a graceful sterling silver bowl of Old English design with the famous gadroon edge, which was filled with beautiful blue delphiniums that night. Phi and Epsilon received runner-up plaques for second and third place. Gamma Beta received the scholarship plaque. In the original song contest, first prize went to "Zeta Hearts," written by Ida Wood, Alpha Xi.

The Radio Breakfast on the thirteenth had "miniature Zeta-dialed radios," and the broadcasting station was the head table. There were "Mrs. Helper's speech, the announcement of the new Field Secretaries' and the new National Rushing Chairman, the introduction of the new Grand Chapter and finally Alpha Pi's story of 'How they did it.'"

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed that final morning's reception in Louise Helper's "really elegant Presidential Suite" of the hotel. At noon the Ship Ahoy Luncheon (sponsored by Alpha Zeta and the Columbus Alumnæ) had ship's-log programs, while "Captain Helper's table [was] decorated with a large ship on a cellophane sea. . . ."

When the *Algomah II* turned its nose toward the mainland that afternoon, wistful Zetas watched the island fade from view. For many, Detroit Day lay ahead. Reflecting on the past few days, *Themis* said:

It was a "streamlined convention—as modern, alive, and vigorous as the youth of today—as closely in tune with the times as the streamliner of the rails, or the clipper of the skies. [It] . . . radiated good will, good times, good work well done, plus vast contentment and oceans of Zeta pride. . . . A convention held in one of the country's most famous hotels which has transformed its décor from the staid elegance of the nineties to the last word in today's graceful modernity, with [believe it or not] both the Blue Room and Casino done in blue and silver.

Yet—outside the great white hotel, the omnipresent horses and buggies and the sharp 'clippity-clop' of the horses' hooves was a constant reminder of changeless ways on motorless Mackinac Island, while inside, during convention, the best of the traditional features, combined with a program of Today, welded the new and the old in one harmonious ensemble that made up the 1939 convention.



It was the last convention for many years that was not overcast by either an imminent war shadow or war's aftermath and post-war conditions.

### Grand Chapter Meeting (Lexington, Virginia, 1939)

Only four months elapsed between Mackinac and the next Grand Chapter meeting. When the twenty-sixth National Panhellenic Congress adjourned after meeting from November 2-4, at the Greenbrier Hotel, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, the five Zeta officers attending journeyed over the mountains to Lexington, Virginia, where they settled themselves at the Little Dutch Inn for several days of quiet work—November 5-7, 1939. They were: Louise Kettler Helper, President; Lucile Reece Roberts, First Vice-President; Helen M. Harrison, Second Vice-President; May E. Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Krieg Strout, Editor-Historian.

The evolution of the summer number of *Themis*, into a special feature issue especially slanted toward rushing, was begun with the decision that "the May issue of *Themis*<sup>8</sup> be made a special issue featuring chapter houses and other pertinent material." A revised edition of *Zeta Facts*<sup>9</sup> was to be published "before fall," as was a revised version of the *Manual for College and Alumnæ Chapters*.

Eleven years after the inauguration of Zeta's work in Virginia, this Grand Chapter decided to "ask the Philanthropic Committee to make a survey of the work being done at Health Center, to see whether we are contributing to a need of the community not already being taken care of by some other agency, and investigate possible new phases of service to which we might contribute our efforts on a more limited scale."

They decided to recommend to the 1941 convention that a permanent scholarship loan fund of \$300 be established at the Virginia State Teachers' College, "\$100 to be loaned to a senior each year to be repaid without interest two years after graduation." Also, to be referred to convention was their motion "that chapter convention fees be on a per capita basis."

The Secretary-Treasurer's oft-mentioned problem, of the time consumed in personally signing receipts, again came under discussion when the decision "to investigate the possibility of using a rubber stamp for the signature on receipts" was recorded. Also another organization's "plan of handling pin orders" was to be investigated "and, if possible, eliminate sending checks for pins to Central Office."

Appointment procedures were next clarified. The establishment of two policies provided for "1) notifying all standing committees before a national convention that they are expected to carry on following the convention until formal notification to the contrary, and 2) telling new appointees they will not assume new duties until notified."

Three emergency loans to chapters were approved for recommendation to the Finance Committee, but they felt "that no new chapter house loans [should] be made in this fiscal year with the possibility" of four chapter house loans looming "in the next fiscal year." Discussing certain 1939 not-so-strong chapters they "went on record as believing that it would be extremely detrimental to the future standing and strength of the fraternity" to consider the inactivation of "any chapter now on our roll," especially considering the "strategic points" at which these chapters were located. And they considered "making a further loan," if payment on the principal of one chapter's mortgage was insisted upon by "the bank."

Delta Kappa, at Mississippi State College, was to be granted a charter if the province vote was affirmative. Ann Castator (Schuster), Theta, was selected "to organize rushing and alumnæ chapters in Virginia," while Barbara Hull<sup>10</sup> Kappa, was appointed "a temporary Field Secretary." A vacancy in the office of Theta province president existed. Possible appointees were agreed upon.

Foreshadowing the day when the fraternity maintained standing legal counsel, was the decision to "investigate the possibility of having a fraternity lawyer in Chicago."

Alpha Pi was given instructions about the "lettering for the Grand Chapter Award. Under the words 'Grand Chapter Award,'" they were to place the year (1939) and under that, the chapter's name.

When "the work of the State Rushing Chairman was considered," it was concluded that new chairmen were needed for fourteen states. Also, it was to be suggested to the "National Rushing Chairman that she compile a definite outline of suggestions for state rushing chairmen." Then, "with these as a start," she could "compile a short, concise rushing manual which would include rushing hints, the President's valuable letter of October 8, the 'ten commandments,' recommendations board, and recommendations blank." Old rushing compilations were to be checked for ideas and the new compilation "submitted to Grand Chapter for approval."

Continuing the scrutiny and organization of rushing, "chapters and members who had been highly successful" in rushing were to be asked by the National Rushing Chairman for suggestions on rushing technique, bidding, et cetera—"this to be compiled and sent to Grand Chapter before presentation to chapters." But they requested that "all material be in the hands of the chapters as soon as possible." Further, "the report of rushing dates [was] to be sent to Central Office by March 15," with "the complete rushing programs and details of parties sent to the National Rushing Chairman and state rushing chairman by May 1." An ambitious program—a goal not immediately attainable then.

Life dues bowed into the picture when "it was decided to consider the matter of life dues at the summer meeting of Grand Chapter." The First Vice-

President's "enlightening report on the alumnæ roundtable held at N.P.C." culminated in the plan of having the two Vice-Presidents "work on a program for developing unchartered alumnæ groups," to be presented to Grand Chapter. And it was voted "to require alumnæ chapters to send a yearbook, or a copy of the program for the year to the Grand Vice-President and province president before September 1."

Germany's invasion of Poland in September, 1939, set off the holocaust that was to culminate in World War II. The trend of events and thinking was indicated when the organization of an Army and Navy Auxiliary<sup>11</sup> was authorized. Lise Courtney (Howe), Beta Nu, was placed "in charge of the project."

The meeting's plan to keep the Field Secretary's file in Central Office proved so workable and practical that it became permanent procedure. "Chapter folders [were] to be sent to Field Secretaries, whenever definite chapter assignments were given, and all carbons for the Field Secretary [were] to be sent to Central Office for filing, except for chapters which had been definitely assigned."

Officers' lists, and to whom they were to be sent, had long been a question. The officers tackled it forthrightly and came up with a complete, if complicated, plan. Chapters were to send "lists only to Central Office and the province president—and to have another sheet containing publicity, magazine, scholarship and rushing chairmen sent to Central Office, to be cut apart and sent to the national committee chairmen; Central Office to type six copies of lists of all officers and committee chairmen to be sent to the Grand President, Editor-Historian, the two Field Secretaries, the Rushing Chairman, and one to be divided between the two Vice-Presidents."

When "work was done on projected province convention programs," they went over the events step by step, and emerged with "two suggested programs worked out for presentation to the province presidents." The following suggestions were also to be made to them: "1) Have members arrive Friday night if possible. 2) Have them stay as long as possible on Sunday. 3) Have a lively tempo at meals—not too serious a theme—entertainment but no speeches at luncheon; if a dinner, have a banquet with a well worked out theme; if a dance, don't have both dinner and dance at a hotel because of expense—instead have a buffet supper. 4) Plan roundtable so that alumnæ rushing and undergraduate rushing roundtables will not be held at the same time. For example, there might be an alumnæ roundtable on rushing and an undergraduate roundtable on pledge training at the same time in the morning, and in the afternoon an undergraduate roundtable on rushing and an alumnæ roundtable on alumnæ programs. 5) Have the duties of the hostesses clearly defined and carefully checked by the province president." And, although "this would probably necessitate a revision of the by-laws," the Secretary-Treasurer was to



write each province secretary about the province budget before the meeting.

They recommended to the Finance Committee that \$5,000 of the Themis Endowment Fund be invested in United States Savings Certificates, and stated that they regretted the necessity of placing old scholarship loan accounts, previously uncollectible, with a credit bureau.

During the three days, the officers visited the chapel of Washington and Lee University, with its famous recumbent statue of General Robert E. Lee, the memorial to General Sam Houston (ancestor of Bruce Houston Davis), and also viewed the exhibit of the Lee possessions. Staying over, the National Historian paid a visit to Bruce Houston Davis' ancestral home just a few miles out of Lexington, which was occupied by her sister and brother-in-law.

The home of both Washington and Lee and the Virginia Military Institute, historical Lexington, with its famous homes and quiet charm, was an inspired location to visit.

### **Grand Chapter Meeting**

**(Evanston, Illinois—1940)**

In contrast to the quiet 1939 meeting was Grand Chapter's next one, at the North Shore Hotel in Evanston, Illinois, June 25-July 1, 1940—the first, since 1927, to be held where Central Office was located. For the officers met with more people than had ever before been in conference with them, and it was one of the longest council meetings on record—eight days.

When the President, Louise Kettler Helper, called the meeting to order, the other grand officers present were Lucile Reece Roberts, First Vice-President; Shirley Krieg Strout, Editor-Historian; and May Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer. The Second Vice-President, Helen Harrison, was unable to attend because of the illness of her father, but she sent twelve well worked out recommendations, each of which was acted upon at the end of the conference.

Meeting from June 27-29, the Finance Committee was also in session at the same hotel, so during that time "several joint Grand Chapter-Finance Committee sessions were held." The Secretary-Treasurer met with the latter "part of the time." Grand Chapter discussed "chapter conditions and plans." The 1939-1940 Field Secretaries, Martha Morrison (McLaughlin) and Ella Waters (Pfau), were also at the hotel and were "on call during most of the meeting. They attended many of the sessions." Present when their chapters were discussed were province presidents in the area that summer: Florence McLeod (Strickler), Alpha province, and Teddy Risser (Gathany), Epsilon province. And Mavis Holmes, chairman of the National Scholarship Committee, "came from Indiana for a discussion of her committee's work on June 30."

After Grand Chapter's consideration of chapters, several special house cases (Tau, Alpha Mu and Alpha Omicron) were discussed later in joint session with

the Finance Committee, the Field Secretaries also attending. Favorable proposals were made by a representative of a St. Louis firm anxious to sell an Iowa City property to Zeta, but at that time "only a lease was decided upon."<sup>12</sup> However, the alumnæ were to be asked "to rush incorporation proceedings so that corporation officers may sign the lease." Campaigns for building fund pledges and donations were ardently recommended. "The handling" of one newsletter bearing a chapter's name was to be brought "into conformity with our new national regulations . . . this to be accomplished by having the chapter historian edit the bulletin and have the present editor serve as alumnæ editor."

Beta Delta was soon to have a new room, so a Beta Delta alumna had charge of selecting the chapter's furnishings. Later she was to head "a campaign for donations from alumnæ." Detailed plans were made in the case of Beta Upsilon. A member of the Finance Committee was scheduled to go to Manhattan during the summer in connection with the chapter's affairs—vari-faceted in nature, but centering around the chapter house rather recently purchased.<sup>13</sup>

A list of ten chapters, "possible loan applicants for 1940-1941" was drawn up and approved by Grand Chapter. Epsilon's proposed remodelling project was also encompassed in financial plans at this time.

Close to the heart of the Grand President was the idea of having a "national project." She presented it at this meeting. The plan, which graduated to the 1941 convention, called for "designating one chapter each year as a 'national project,' for which donations will be solicited from the membership." It was felt "that with decreasing demands in our Health Center program," it would be possible to present this new project to the fraternity, and "ask the members to specify what portion of their annual donations was to go to the Philanthropic Fund, and what portion would go to the National Project." Alumnæ chapters were to continue making "some annual donation to Health Center as required by our by-laws." Deciding to try this plan, in 1940-1941, Epsilon, with its house remodeling plans, was selected "as our first national project." It was never carried out, but the suggestion was made of having "a nation-wide party benefit for the National Project Fund."

A study of other "effective magazine [subscription] campaigns" resulted in the recommendation "that Zeta sponsor a really professional campaign in 1940-1941." A prominent Zeta advertising executive was to be asked to assist.

Again, the necessary garnering of alumnæ dues was pondered over. The number was considered too small for the size of the membership, so "to make the campaign for alumnæ dues more effective than previously, it was decided to send out a printed, short appeal, [enclosing] a printed bill—the dues and magazine subscription campaigns to be combined in the annual mailing."

Turning to Health Center: Discussing "the deed which the state of Virginia had asked us to sign, covering the right of way given them on the Health

Center property in the summer of 1939," the conclusion was that "since the fraternity apparently does not have the legal right to deed over any part of this property, the Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to consult the fraternity attorney."<sup>14</sup> Action was also taken on "letters and recommendations" from various members of the Philanthropic Committee.

"No new charters were contemplated for 1940-1941," but for petitioning groups, seven standards "under which the fraternity was already operating to some extent" were to be included in the Grand President's manual as "standards to be used as a guide but not as iron-clad rules." Perhaps representing the ideal, or ultimate, these did not become the adopted yardstick, nor did the Grand President's manual materialize, but the whole plan was sound.

Interest rose high over the expected change in the 1941 convention site, for such a possibility had been thoroughly weighed previously via correspondence, "and it was decided prior to our meeting to consider a change." After the 1939 convention selected Asheville, North Carolina, "Grand Chapter learned that . . . Alpha province would prefer to have it elsewhere, since they would like to be hostess in 1948." Rates and railway fares were diligently studied. Then, "since the fraternity expects and wants a southern convention in 1941," location, transportation and rates all favored the final decision "that the place for the 1941 convention shall be changed . . . to the Edgewater Gulf Hotel, Edgewater Park, Mississippi . . . as [stipulated] in the by-laws, page 24: 'Provided three months' notice is given to college and chartered alumnæ chapters, the Grand Secretary-Treasurer may, with the advice and consent of Grand Chapter, change the time and place for the national convention whenever it is impracticable to meet at the time and place previously selected.'" Thus, Mississippi won the last convention to be held for a period of five years. "Alpha province's desire to entertain the 1948 convention" became "the official reason" to be announced to the fraternity. But the gathering war clouds made the officers decide that hotel arrangements "should be made subject to change if general conditions necessitate postponement of convention."

The word *active* began to fall into disuse in the fourth decade, especially after *Themis* style rules instructed correspondents to drop the word as outmoded and misleading. When the meeting considered constitutional amendments for the next convention, they voted "to change the word *active* to *college* wherever it appears." Thus another early-day word was on the way to retirement. The Constitution Committee was also "to submit proposed changes to Grand Chapter before they are sent to the membership. . . . The convention reporter was to take minutes only at regular business sessions . . . not at Grand Council meeting or roundtable meetings." A possible convention favor was looked over. Since time prevented discussion of the revision of the honor ring point system, this was to be handled later by mail.



Conferring with Grand Chapter during the three days that the Finance Committee met, was a Washington, D.C. resident through whose conversation and thinking ran the recurring fear of war and possible early bombings. Although Pearl Harbor and declared war were a year-and-a-half away, bomb insurance on chapter houses was given consideration, as was the safeguarding of valuable national files in the event of hostilities being carried to the shores of the United States. Central Office was to acquire a new safe "to contain one membership file and other important fraternity material." The big wooden box containing the carefully packed Historical Exhibit, then stored in Champaign, Illinois, where the National Historian lived, was to be transferred to the Chicago area for storage in a fireproof warehouse in Evanston. Chapter histories then on hand and those received thereafter were also to be shipped to Evanston for storage. The Historical Exhibit and histories were promptly sent to Evanston.

"Improved conditions in the operation of the hotel" were reported on Zeta's Beekman Tower stock. Investment consideration included "the problem of finding banks where fraternity funds will draw more than one per cent." Before the Finance Committee left, the Secretary-Treasurer conducted Grand Chapter, the Field Secretaries, and that committee on a tour of Central Office, giving a "brief résumé of the work." Studied particularly was the accounting system, then under considerable discussion. It was decided to retain the system, but with certain comprehensive measures added.

Three adopted mimeographing policies proposed by the Secretary-Treasurer stipulated "1) that mimeographing be done in Central Office for Zeta officials only when it is national in scope . . . not localized as in the case of provinces; 2) that the greater part of the mimeographing of a college year be completed the preceding summer, copy to be sent by the officers preparing it by March 1, and that Grand Chapter give the Secretary-Treasurer final approval by May 15;" 3) If for any reason such early preparation proved impossible, "at least a month's notice must be given during the year." But developments and conditions soon made the full execution of those policies impossible. "Qualifications of chapter officers" were to be mimeographed, suggestions to be sent to the Second Vice-President for coordination.

The September and October issues of *The Link*, as well as the November and December numbers, "and others if feasible," were to be combined "as an economy measure . . . considering the combined issues as two in order to meet the constitutional requirement" of eight each year.

Under fire at the time, the inspection report blanks were to be replaced with "essay reports with copies to five grand officers, one Field Secretary, and one province president." Inspecting officers were to be furnished a list of topics as a guide.

For some time now, meetings had been replete with *Manual* plans. This one

was no exception. The Field Secretaries were to work with the President on a *Manual for Field Secretaries* that was to include a list of traditions. Instead of reprinting *The Manual for Active and Alumnæ Chapters*, a mimeographed supplement was to be distributed in the fall. Loose-leaf form was the tentative decision for the *Manual* when it was printed. A summer printing was approved for the *Pledge Manual*, though—the Field Secretaries to prepare the material which was to be sent to the President “for correlating.” The Editor-Historian was “to draw up suggestions for a chapter alumnæ newsletter,” while the President was to prepare, for chapter social chairmen, “a list of etiquette points for teas, dinners, et cetera, for visiting officers.” The President also planned a summer conference with the National Rushing Chairman.

Instead of reprinting the rushing booklet, *Zeta Facts*, they decided to encourage the use of May *Themis*<sup>15</sup> for rushing.

A policy governing chapter elections was introduced, namely, “that college chapters elect officers the first week of the second semester and install a month later.” No decision regarding a similar policy for alumnæ chapters was to be made until after convention.

In the conference with the National Scholarship Chairman two policies were adopted “as a means of improving fraternity scholastic standing . . . i.e., that if a girl is not initiated after a year as a pledge, 1) she must be revoted on by the chapter, and 2) she must pay the same dues as initiated members.”

Times were moving swiftly. Something else outmoded was the “outdated wording of some of our Zeta songs,” which the officers meant to start correcting then—and did. Chapters were to be asked “to change incorrect words in songs wherever possible—for example, in ‘Pride of Our Hearts,’ change ‘frat’ to ‘girls’” Deciding to “appoint someone to conduct a music campaign, with the ultimate purpose of publishing a new songbook,” they urged “Sigma to sell their stock of books as fast as possible.”

A chapter’s<sup>16</sup> “request to relinquish its charter” was not granted. “In preparation for the fall rushing season the Second Vice-President, province president, and state rushing chairman” were “to give the chapter concentrated direction and assistance during the summer.”

Careful study was given to “a letter from Beta Zeta’s alumnæ concerning the possible re-establishment” of that chapter. Grand Chapter decided “to advise them of a four-year program” they had in mind, with three projects specifically named.

A puzzled province nominating chairman was told “that the delegates, rather than the chapters, will vote” on a slate.

The Vice-Presidents were to urge the province presidents “to bring about the chartering of several new alumnæ chapters in each province before the next national convention.”

Mentioned in connection with a particular case cited, was the disapproval of the National Panhellenic Congress, of "the use of Greek letters by noncollegiate organizations."

Looking toward a new edition, the Editor-Historian, who wrote Zeta's section, discussed the material "for the new *Baird's Manual*."

The one social note was the lovely large luncheon given by the Evanston Zetas at Alpha Phi's chapter house, complete with speeches and delightful entertainment.

### A Change Is Announced

Through the November, 1940, *Themis* the change in the convention location was announced to the fraternity in the gracious phraseology of Louise Helper:

"The year for another international convention will soon be here," she wrote, "plans, exciting plans—are in the making.

"Believing that Alpha province should have the requested privilege of being hostess to the Golden Anniversary Convention, an interesting change in the coming 1941 convention location has been made. We are still going to the South. The Old South—where there are century-old oaks laden with gray Spanish moss, bayous, a blue Gulf stream dotted with white sails, antebellum homes and huge plantations—and gracious hostesses.

"Perhaps you've guessed it. Convention will be held at the Edgewater Gulf Hotel, Biloxi, Mississippi, on the fascinating Mississippi coast. A beautiful hotel, conveniently located, is ready to give the Zetas the best in service and attractive rates."

Then, as the date neared, and war tensions tightened, her next communication in the March, 1941, *Themis*, sounded a more somber note. She said—

Never did an international convention beckon with stronger appeal than the one planned for June . . . at the Edgewater Gulf Hotel, on the Mississippi coast, in one of America's most beautiful and truly southern states.

We should be especially thankful that we are scheduled to meet at this particular time and in this particular section. The greater spirit of leisure should make it possible to plan wisely and well, without confusion or haste, for the period ahead of us as citizens of a still free world. When this world is topsy-turvy and each day's events are changing thoughts and history, it is appropriate that we meet and plan for our own fraternity's future and its part in the scheme of the world, both as individuals and as an organization.

In planning for our fraternity we are planning for participation in world events as college women—well informed and necessarily more capable of giving expression and action to those more mature plans which must contribute to twentieth-century stability as a free people. We shall learn more of the Christian value of giving rather than of getting in the years ahead. We shall develop in courage, pride and stamina.

The fraternity system in its original conception, and its broader interpretation, must play its full part in the years ahead. As a vital unit in that system we must add to the strength that is our heritage on this continent. . . . Ours is a challenge and a privilege! The world has need of each one of us. In our chapter and college life; in our homes; or in our careers, each can add her share to that glorious future which is ours on the North American continent. . . .



### The Seventeenth National and Sixth International Convention

Deep in the Deep South in deep summer, the seventeenth national and sixth international convention, was held on schedule, June 23-28, 1941, at the Edgewater Gulf Hotel, Edgewater Park, Mississippi. The lure of a convention held in the front yard of the blue Gulf of Mexico "proved irresistible to nearly 300 Zetas from the four corners of the country and Canada." The hostess provinces were Zeta and Beta.

"Preceding convention were meetings of Grand Chapter and national officers, starting June 17," *Themis* reported. "Mrs. Helper was the leader and chairman of the training school held for province presidents,<sup>17</sup> with each of the national officers assisting. Roundtables were conducted by Miss Youngberg on finances; by Mrs. Strout on publicity and publications; by Miss Harrison on provinces. Mrs. Roberts was general chairman of the section on chapters, with Margarethe Faulstich (Livesay) assisting with alumnæ presentation and discussion. Dorothy Gibbons (Gross) handled the college section. Mrs. Helper took the topics of Panhellenic, national policies and correlated subjects. Mary Porter (McCorkle), who arrived Friday, conducted the roundtable on rushing."

While the social pattern was studded with events that unfolded in steady succession, the meeting wrought the greatest changes in the fraternity since the emergence of Grand Chapter, as such, in 1902. For, no more important legislation was ever passed at any convention than the change in the governmental setup approved at this time, with its accompanying change in the terminology long dear and familiar to the fraternity, and the new manner of selecting province presidents.

The new setup "adopted for a trial period of two years," hinged around an increased Council, consisting of President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Alumnæ Director and Membership Director (these five comprising the elective, voting Executive Council), with the Secretary-Treasurer, Editor-Historian, Field Secretaries, Extension Chairman and Finance Chairman as appointive nonvoting officers of the newer, enlarged National Council.

Another change involved "the selection of province officers by mail just prior to national conventions, instead of having elections at province conventions, as was formerly done. Under the new plan, chapters were to send suggested names for province officers to the Executive Council, who will then prepare a slate of 'qualified nominees to be elected . . . before June 1 of a national convention year,' these officers to take office the opening day of national convention." This plan was to be tried for the 1942 province meetings.

Not surprising in view of prior developments and Grand Chapter's action at the 1940 meeting, was the official switch from the word *active* to *college*. Said *Themis*, "Three years ago style sheets sent to *Themis* correspondents included

the request that our college chapters be known and written about as *college* chapters, not *active* chapters, since the trend in the Greek world was away from such designation. The word 'active' when analyzed, implies that members out of college become inactive—hence the gradual abandoning of the old term 'active.' Thus, convention adopted the new and more accurate terminology first introduced through *Themis*, and our members in college will henceforth be known as college members."

Alumnæ life memberships were increased from \$25 to \$50, with the annual contributions due April 1 from each chartered alumnæ chapter to be divided between the National Philanthropic Fund, or the Chapter House Loan Fund, as designated by the contributing chapter. A maximum aggregate loan to any chapter from the House Loan Fund was fixed for a given period, while interest on scholarship loans was reduced. Some method was also "to be considered whereby the official delegate of an alumnæ chapter to national convention might have her transportation assured, so that it would provide representation for all alumnæ chapters at convention."

All trial amendments approved by the 1939 convention, not affected by constitutional changes made at this convention, were continued for another two years. And the Constitution Committee was granted power to make all necessary correlative changes to bring the constitution and by-laws into accord with convention acts.

Echoing the 1940 Grand Chapter meeting was the adopted recommendation that convention "approve the idea of a national project for the purpose of aiding some individual chapter<sup>18</sup> with its problems, and that convention grant the Executive Council authority to determine the nature of the project, and, with the Finance Committee, to disburse the necessary funds." Authority was also granted to appoint a special National Project Committee. The balance of the registration fees, after convention expenses had been deducted, were to be turned over to the National Project.

After a span of years, history was again in the interest spotlight, when authorization was given for the two-volume *History of Zeta Tau Alpha* to "be brought up to date and published as soon as possible."

Another general recommendation, "that the entire field of public relations be reviewed and that plans be made to present more completely to the fraternity at large and the Greek-letter world the accomplishments of Zeta Tau Alpha," later proved most baffling in exact interpretation to the national officers and those questioned about it.

Convention moved to "adopt a national tradition that membership certificates be given to new initiates by their Big Sisters." The Ritual Committee was instructed to study the present memorial service, and present to the next con-

vention "a revised and shortened version." The term "Big-Sister-Little-Sister" was to replace "Mother-Daughter" in the pledge service. Other ritual changes of an esoteric nature were also adopted. One "abolished the tradition" of learning certain sections by word of mouth, and made different provisions for an easier, if less secret, method of memorization.

Winding up the complicated constitutional process, a final safeguarding motion provided "that, in view of the interim between this convention and the time for the appointment of officers and committee members as stated in the constitution under the new governmental setup, all appointive officers and committee members now fulfilling their duties be held over until August 1, 1942, and that the Executive Council be empowered to make contracts with the salaried officers for the interim between this convention and August 1, 1942, to immediately make the appointments necessary to insure the proper functioning of the new governmental setup."

Spontaneous applause which the official minutes called "a demonstration of approval, was given May Youngberg and Shirley Krieg Strout," the Secretary-Treasurer and Editor-Historian, respectively, who, while remaining on National Council, retired from the executive committee by virtue of that body's new personnel.

Not strange in view of the uncertainties of the times was the decision to leave the date and location of next convention to the Executive Council. For, from then on the convention schedule was to be completely disrupted, and the meeting adjourned with no idea where the next convention would be held.

Candidates elected for the Executive Council were: President, Louise Kettler Helper; First Vice-President, Lucile Reece Roberts; Second Vice-President, Helen Harrison; Alumnæ Director, Jane Carfer (Theobald); Membership Director, Billy Ruth Young (Rubottom).

Said Nell Chamberlain, Alpha Iota, in *Themis*: "A lot of work, fun and midnight oil went into making *The Chain* a chatty little newspaper that was passed out at the dining-room door each morning. Under the direction of Shirley Krieg Strout, who was editor-in-chief, Lois Tapert (Dordan), Beta Tau, assistant editor, and Dr. Frances MacCracken, Beta Tau, business manager, the paper came off the press with bright bits about Zetas at convention and colorful stories of what was happening during those crowded days. Assisting on the reportorial staff were Nell Chamberlain, Alpha Iota; Geraldine Childress, Beta Sigma; Betty McGehee (Schuessler), Zeta; Ann Burnette (McCain), Beta Iota; Marie Chauncey (Cox), Lois Lee McLain, Alpha Upsilon; Jean Megerle (Stivers), Phi. The business staff was composed of Carol Babcock, Detroit Alumnæ; Ann Knight and Harriet Shoecraft, Alpha Gamma."

The social picture began unreeling Monday noon, when Knoxville Alumnæ





Jane Carfer Theobald



Beatrice Clephane

Billy Ruth Young  
Rubottom

and Zeta chapter's get-acquainted opening luncheon spread a dazzling buffet that set the pace for continuing food excellence throughout convention. The Zetas sat by provinces, and promptly initiated the souvenir songbooks that were well-used from then on at this singing convention.

"With unpacking out of the way," a new plan next made it possible for everyone to see the exhibits, and hear them explained. "Exhibits," it was emphasized, "are a vast amount of work, and they have a definite value." So this time they were worked into a set program that provided "time for seeing, hearing, understanding and acquiring new ideas and stores of information to take away. Sections starting at stated intervals went through in three divisions (classified according to urban university, state university, small college), thus clocking the whole tour with smooth-working precision."

"Shirley Krieg Strout, National Historian, who collected Zeta's extensive Historical Exhibit, and who previously set it up, acted as curator and narrator, conducting groups from display to display." Margarethe Faulstich Livesay, Field Secretary, who assembled the *alumnæ* exhibit, explained her display, while Dorothy Gibbons Gross turned the college exhibit into a silver and blue Alice-in-Wonderland display. Florence Strickler had a complete province exhibit, and Mabel Weeter had a Health Center display.

That evening a "Deep South" theme led off the formal functions. "The dining-room was transformed into a plantation picture." Said *The Chain*, "Darkies leaning on bales of cotton singing plantation melodies, Spanish moss hanging from the ceiling, and charming 'gentlemen' and belles of the South, lent an authentically southern atmosphere to the plantation dinner. . . . Card-board figures of wide-skirted southern belles in varicolored gowns decorated the tables, while at each place was a miniature cotton-picker's bag and menu cards printed 'with a southern accent.' Between courses featuring 'essunce uv

beef Loozyann,' 'sweet taters' and 'watahmellen,' the assembly was lead in singing by Roxine Beard (Petzold), Alpha Eta, and New York City Alumnæ, while Mary Dawn Mettone and Elizabeth Parrish dipped and swayed in an old-fashioned waltz, finishing with a bit of jive.

"The hostessing members of Gamma Delta and Gamma Zeta"—the two Mississippi chapters—"were charming in hoop-skirted ante-bellum gowns, with Florence Williams (Dunn), Florence Hilgard and Helen Webb (Cooley) receiving the guests." Gracious Louise Helper, when introduced, gave the general welcome, introduced the members of Grand Chapter, special guests, and the presidents of the two hostess provinces.

At the reception immediately following in the lobby for Grand Chapter, those receiving were: Marion Mayer Bergin, convention social chairman; Louise Helper; Miss Gena Branscombe, convention initiate; Lucile Roberts, First Vice-President; Helen Harrison, Second Vice-President; May Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Krieg Strout, Editor-Historian; Grace Bennett Chandler, president of Beta province; Julien Devereux Weeks, president of Zeta province.

After that, the Shreveport Zetas' Show Boat party in the ballroom provided hilarious "mellerdrummer." Elizabeth Morris, Alpha Eta, "led the smooth-singing Cincinnati quintet in several harmony numbers;" then the party ended with the singing of southern songs.

Tuesday—the all-white day—was "lovely in the daytime—dazzling at night." Following the early morning memorial service conducted by Dorothy Longmire (Warlick), Zeta, for the thirty-eight Zetas who had passed on since the last convention, Chattanooga and Oklahoma Alumnæ were breakfast hostesses.

At high noon, Jane Dale, Omicron, and Wanda Fahlberg (Wallstrom), Upsilon, conducted formal pledging for Gena Branscombe, the distinguished conductor-composer who was the 1941 convention initiate. Miss Branscombe (Mrs. John Tenney in private life) was then escorted to the Pledge Luncheon, where Alpha Upsilon and the Stillwater Alumnæ matched the "just-turned-Zeta" theme with decorations portraying pledge life.

At four o'clock, with showers threatening, the photographer cajoled and maneuvered the white-clad Zetas into position for the official picture, in an exquisite setting under ancient, gnarled live oaks.

That night, the fragrance of magnolias, gardenias and Spanish yucca perfumed the candlelighted White Dinner, superbly arranged by the Austin Alumnæ and Kappa chapter, under the direction of Johnny Mann (Newkirk), Kappa. The speakers' table, draped in Grecian style, had an outline of ferns. When Billy Ruth Young (Rubottom), the toastmistress, introduced the honor guest, Gena Branscombe, "the room was full of starry-eyed Zetas who listened

raptly to her charming talk—full of depth and beauty.” They were delighted when Roxine Petzold sang some of Miss Branscombe’s compositions. “And when she rose from her place at the speakers’ table to lead the Zeta chorus,” she accomplished magic “with the wave of an imaginary baton”—sheer conducting genius. Convention’s music chairman, Mary Jane Webb, Birmingham Alumnæ, accompanied. Also introduced was “a new Zeta song in the modern manner,” played by the composer, Lillian Short Morse, Mu. Then Ella Waters Pfau gave the impressive candle-lighting ceremony as the dinner drew to a close.

The planning committee<sup>19</sup> had created a setting of breath-taking beauty for the model initiation which followed in the ballroom. The services were conducted by members of Grand Chapter, assisted by Ruth Houser (Zantos), Gamma Epsilon, and Lois Faulstich (Hays), Alpha Pi. Said *Themis*, “Gena Branscombe became a full-fledged Zeta, even as you and I.”

On Wednesday “the houses that magazines built” were everywhere for Beta Sigma’s and Memphis Alumnæ’s luncheon, featuring Zeta’s own magazine agency. Guests were given subscription slips to some popular magazine. These were matched to a corresponding magazine on each table, where paper houses stood by each plate. Lucile Henry, Memphis president, presided.

By this time “the Winchell spirit had struck convention,” *Themis* reported, “and everyone was turning to *The Chain’s* Zit-Zat column. Everyone knew that a survivor of the *Athenian* disaster, Margaret Doggett (Crow), Kappa, was at convention, and that *Mademoiselle’s* Centenary college board member was dark-haired Ann Burnette (McCain).”

Prevailing red, white and blue American and Canadian flags and other patriotic decorations made Wednesday night’s formal dinner one of convention’s most colorful functions. It honored the Canadians Zetas, with those of Canadian ancestry sitting at the speakers’ table. The toastmistress, Elizabeth Greenlee (Kelley), Kappa and San Antonio Alumnæ, presented Marian Wolford (Fuller), Nu, who introduced the honor guests—all those of Canadian extraction. In addition to Edith Thompson, Beta Rho, from Winnipeg—Theta province president—and Ruth McCulloch (Bracken), Beta Rho, who spoke, there were Gena Branscombe (Canadian born): Shirley Krieg Strout from Grand Chapter, and Beta Rho’s Florence McLeod Strickler, who had “a brother serving in the Royal Air Force.”

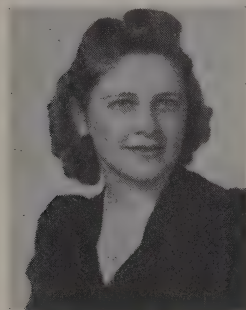


Ella Waters Pfau  
Field Secretary



Rapt attention was given Nu's poised president when Marian Wolford (Fuller) told of Nu's pioneering in the Bundles for Britain movement among southern colleges, of their letter to the Honorable Winston Churchill suggesting that the Tuscaloosa Zetas adopt one squadron of the R.A.F., and of his reply, of all things, saying that they might become sponsors for the entire R.A.F., which didn't daunt Nu at all. Quite the contrary.

Representing the Finance Committee, Dorothy Hillix, Theta, announced that the fraternity already had \$12,500 of national funds invested in defense bonds "as a contribution to the defense program." "The Star-Spangler Banner" closed the dinner. Groups leaving the dining-room stopped to inspect the great seals of the United States and Canada.



Dorothy Gibbons Gross  
Field Secretary

But the evening<sup>20</sup> was just beginning and so was many a Zeta's advanced education in rushing. In a series of dramatic sketches presented that night and Thursday morning, convention was shown effective rushing techniques. Mary Porter McCorkle, National Rushing Chairman, opened each session with a brief talk in which she outlined rushing's guiding principles. "Local prestige depends upon local effort," she reiterated. Dorothy Gibbons Gross took over the morning presentation.

By this time there was speculation as to "how much sleep people were getting. National officers and committees met far into the early morning hours. There were meetings—extra-curricular, as it were."

"Zeta Memories" was the theme song when sixty Zetas who had attended more than one national convention were honored at the Thursday noon Repeaters' Luncheon. Lambda and Houston Alumnæ planned the table decorations. Shipped from Texas, the gorgeous centerpiece of yellow flowers and bluebells used at the speakers' table adorned the picture taken later. Ribbons indicating the number of conventions attended were pinned on each repeater by the President, as Elizabeth Bartlett (Sehon),<sup>21</sup> Lambda, read the names from the master scroll. Helen Harrison and Shirley Strout had attended the most conventions.

"That evening," *Themis* reported firmly, "the Texans really whooped it up, with a bona fide chuck wagon dinner, ranch style, on the front lawn of the hotel." Zeta cowboys "in swish cowhand regalia (satin and such) rode pell-mell around the gathering and yipped their welcome. . . ." There was sumptuous fare, but no knives and forks. Slacks and sports clothes prevailed, "from the N.P. on down, slacks being better insurance against the clinging ways of the Mississippi mosquitoes." Texas-born Louise Helper won the lariat-throwing contest.

But as dusk fell, quiet didn't reign. Just tuned up for the evening, the party

shifted to the hotel verandah for a session of vigorous square dancing that was not muted. A hillbilly band played lustily while the Texas folk-dance experts (Zetas) called numbers, and not only led the steps but attempted to teach the dances to the scores who had never heard of them before. The very young, and the not so young—they “stomped and pranced up and down the verandah, and they kept it up until time for the boat ride.”

The moonlight ride on the Gulf of Mexico substituted twinkling shore lights for the moon that was missing. To maintain balance on the *Bernice*, noses were counted, and Zetas were distributed correctly between the cool top deck and the not-so-cool inside. The top deck sang softly. Inside there was hilarity.

Then the last day dawned. Trumpet-carrying pages uniformed in white called for members of Phi Beta Kappa, Mortar Board, Theta Sigma Phi, Women's Government, class officers, and other campus honors at the White Violets<sup>22</sup> Luncheon planned by Epsilon and Tulsa Alumnæ. Doris Campbell, Alpha Upsilon and Tulsa Alumnæ, was the toastmistress.

“Its loveliness, its moments of tenseness, as the awards were announced, and its excitement” were remembered memories of the closing banquet, which had “Zeta Trails” as its theme, and Martha Belle Hilton (Sulzby), Alpha Nu, former president of Beta province, as toastmistress. On the draped table the Greek letters ZTA were arranged in ferns and flowers. Turquoise and silver programs featured the crown, the shield and the pledge pin, representing Zeta's past, present and future. Growth and expansion were traced in the toast program which also emphasized Zeta history.

Mary Jane Webb and Martha Ann Paty (Reynolds) (in tableau) told about the “Foot of the Trail.” Dorothy Gibbons Gross spoke on “The Path Leads Upward.” Martha Shepherd's subject was “The Trail Broadens” (1898-1909); Marion Mayer Bergin sketched “The New Horizon” (1909-1918); Lorena Boyd spoke on “The Road Turns” (1918-1928); Margaret Williams told of Zeta as a “Seasoned Traveler” (1928-1938), while Louise Helper's subject was “The Broad Highway.” Mary Jane Webb's new toast song was featured. Awards came next.

When Beta Iota was announced as the winner of the Grand Chapter Award, the silver bowl was again presented by the donor, Dorothy Hillix. Alpha Kappa chapter received the plaque for second place, while third place went to Nu. Ranking first for two successive semesters, Beta Iota, Beta Nu, Gamma Beta and Epsilon received scholarship plaques.

Then officers were introduced, the last song was sung—the banquet was over. A southern farewell breakfast, arranged by Beta Omega and Jackson Alumnæ, mixed checked gingham place mats and woolly mammy dolls with southern songs. Janie Vie Robinson (Lindsay) was the toastmistress. Then the buses left for the New Orleans house-party.

With the Roosevelt Hotel as headquarters, Saturday and Sunday's pro-

gram included luncheon at the Patio Royal, a complete tour of the Vieux Carré, dinner at the Roosevelt Hotel's famous Blue Room, then "a night in Old New Orleans, amidst its glamour and intrigue, traditionally ending with French dripped coffee and doughnuts at the French Market." Sunday's drive took the visitors through the rest of the city. All this was planned by the New Orleans Zetas.

The work, the gaiety was over. When the curtain rang down on the 1941 convention it was to stay down for five years. This was the pre-World War II convention. The next would be post-war.

### **National Council Meeting (New York City—1941)**

The thirty-eight-year-old Grand Chapter having been voted into limbo by the previous convention, the next meeting to be held was that of the new body established five months previously in Mississippi. The news of Pearl Harbor hit the country just five days after the officers disbanded, so the meeting was held in a national atmosphere of the mounting tension of portending war. While the term "defense effort" was still being used, the prevailing atmosphere in the country—troop movements, crowded trains, and the general activity—all had the unmistakable signs of a war not far off.

The minutes of this first National Council meeting stated merely that "following the National Panhellenic Congress in New York City, the national officers present stayed on for a three-day meeting: Louise Kettler Helper, President; Lucile Reece Roberts, First Vice-President; Jane Carfer Theobald, Alumnæ Director; Billy Ruth Young Rubottom, Membership Director; May Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Krieg Strout, Editor-Historian. The place was the Grosvenor Hotel, in New York City, and the dates were November 30-December 2, 1941.

The minutes further explained that the list of those present "comprised four officers who had been on Grand Chapter before the change in setup at the 1941 convention and the two officers elected to fill the two newly created offices. . . ." Then, because of the definite need of clarifying duties and procedures under the new setup, "the chief purpose of the meeting was to cover the transition from the old to the new setup and to work out routine details under the new. Helen Harrison, Second Vice-President, was unable to attend because of illness in her family. Beatrice Cleaphane, Finance Chairman, and Dorothy Gibbons Gross, retiring Field Secretary, attended several of the sessions."

They "read and discussed the duties of National Council members, as provided in the revised national by-laws [and] each officer took notes to be used as the basis for perfecting the routine of her office and compiling her manual."



Then "in the course of the discussion certain decisions were made and dates established." Some of it was repetitious and a mere restating of established routine, some was clarification or new decisions, but the main point was to get it all set down. They took up each office separately.

Under the office of the President, the "policies regarding revision of the national by-laws," took cognizance of the fact "that in the past the Secretary-Treasurer had handled correspondence between Grand Chapter and the Constitution Committee, although the President has been an ex-officio member of that committee all along." Agreement was reached "that the President will handle such correspondence in the future." In a convention year, "proposed amendments to the national by-laws were to be submitted to the Constitution Committee by January 1," while it was stipulated that "following a national convention, copy for the revised by-laws will be submitted by the Constitution Committee to the President for approval by August 1." The President was to have the copy approved by September 1 and the committee was to mail the revised by-laws to the chapters by October 1.

While conditions and the war were to nullify or make impossible their complete execution, policies set up in regard to the "President's responsibility for the direction of officers in the field" were interesting: The Field Secretary, who was to "be at home two months of the year . . . a month at Christmas and a month in May" . . . was to "be allowed an average of a day per week free from contact with an *alumnæ* or college chapter while in the field." Dates planned for [the] province presidents' visits, "were to be announced by the President in her National Council bulletins." It was also planned "that the President's correspondence with province presidents be defined as regarding general policies and plans," leaving to the Vice-Presidents the correspondence regarding individual chapters. The Field Secretaries were to "travel part of the summer," and a Chapter Counselor was to "travel with a Field Secretary for training and experience." When officers or committee members resigned, it was thought replacement delay might be avoided by having "a list of tentatively approved *alumnæ* on file" (with the President) for future appointments when a vacancy occurred, "a first, second and third choice [was to be made] so that if an appointee does not accept, the President can proceed without referring the matter back." The President was to be an ex-officio member of the Ritual Committee.

In the case of the two Vice-Presidents, their responsibility as set down included: (1) "Correspondence with the Field Secretaries, Chapter Counselor, province presidents regarding specific college chapter matters. (2) Work with *alumnæ* advisory boards. (3) Work with Coorganizers. (4) Work of First Vice-President with Fraternity Education chairman. (5) Work of Second Vice-President with Scholarship Committee chairman.

When the brand-new office of *Alumnæ* Director was taken up, there was

much to be thought out. First, the "discussion of any new officer's need of information and suggestions," resulted in the decision "that for a year the Alumnæ Director [was to] mail the Field Secretary copies of her correspondence with alumnæ to other Council members, to be forwarded by the one receiving it in each case to Central Office for the Field Secretary's file." The deadline for yearbooks in the alumnæ calendars "was changed" to November 1 and "it was considered satisfactory for the Alumnæ Director to acknowledge alumnæ yearbooks by card unless there is some comment which should be included in a letter." When alumnæ clubs (as aside from chartered alumnæ chapters) were discussed, "and a check made of cities in each province where we have or should have alumnæ clubs, a motion was carried to list all alumnæ clubs in *Themis* and give them no other recognition." Tried for a time but proved confusing and duplicative was the plan for the Alumnæ Director to "secure names and addresses of the president and secretary of alumnæ clubs, using small blanks for that purpose," then sending the secretaries' list to Central Office for correction of the *Themis* directory. Since the Secretary who, for many years, had taken all minutes was now on National Council, the Executive Council was without a secretary. So the Alumnæ Director was duly selected to act as secretary of Executive Council. She was to send a copy of the minutes to each member and also send "other National Council members any information they should have."

In considering the duties of the new office of Membership Director, "a tentative schedule was suggested to spread the work over the year and avoid overloading at any time." The plan was: "January 15—Begin on coorganizer and freshman scholarship plans for the following year. March 15 to November 1—Work with all chapters on rushing: a) Preparations for rush week, b) Follow-up after rush week. Summer—Start list of coorganizer prospects for a year, later to be added to and checked on by traveling officers. December 1 to January 15—Write chapters regarding Christmas rushing. Get informal rushing reports from chapters. Check on plans for second-term rushing with notes on carbon copies to state rushing chairmen." Throughout the year [she was to] work on cultural programs. This new officer, who "was made ex officio to the chairman of House Directors<sup>23</sup> at this time," was also to direct the work of the state rushing chairmen, who, in the future, she was to appoint with the Executive Committee's approval. Anxious to start on a new program, the meeting directed her to "confer with the Chairman of House Directors en route home and plan to experiment with cultural programs in a few chapters this year, including such things as opera broadcasts on Saturdays and Philharmonic broadcasts on Sundays."

Mimeographing—much on the mind of the Secretary-Treasurer at that time—was recorded as "one of the major topics of discussion under this office." Discussed at the 1940 Grand Chapter meeting, the subject was again to the fore.



"All were agreed," the minutes said, "that mimeographing should be cut to the bone, both because the times call for extreme economy, and because the members will not read volumes of mimeographed pages." Then, "no instructions from national officers to college and alumnae chapters will be mimeographed and mailed in the future unless there is something new." The next issue of *The Link* was to ask chapters "to keep all notebook pages and all instructions sent out," with frequent reminders to be carried in future *Links*.

Both interesting and revealing were the following policies that were established for the 1941-42 *Link*: (1) The January, February and March, 1942, issues were to be combined into a winter issue, while 2) April and May would constitute a spring issue. 3) The delinquent lists that had not been popular would be omitted. 4) The White Violets column that cited honors was to be run "in two columns." 5) The "alumnae dues summary" was to be omitted as were 6) examination grades. 7) *The Link* was "to include only matters of great importance." Further cuts considered for 1942-43 included having only two issues, omitting White Violets, et cetera—the "decision to be reached later in the year." But at this time "an annual Founders' Day Proclamation"<sup>24</sup> from the President in the October *Link* was established as a policy."

Duties recorded for the Secretary-Treasurer "under the new setup" specified that she was to "take the minutes of National Council meetings, type and send them to National Council. If other officers are present for some sessions, she will send copies of those portions of the minutes to those officers." This officer, who was also "made ex officio to the national magazine treasurer," was to "mail Founders' Day greetings and Christmas cards for National Council." And when she recommended a chapter loan she was to "state the number of members and pledges in a chapter, whether the chapter is operating within [its] budget, whether there is probability of prompt payment."

"After careful discussion" the Golden Anniversary Fund became the new name for the former Fiftieth Anniversary Fund, which was renamed at this time. May fifteenth was to be proclaimed "Golden Anniversary Day," and the Golden Anniversary Fund was to be stressed in "appeals."

Since the major objective of the Golden Anniversary Fund was "to promote the welfare of the fraternity," it was planned to "present Epsilon chapter as the first national project to be financed by that fund." But before that decision, the National Project authorized by the Mississippi convention came under "thorough discussion." While not complex, the National Project was, by nature, one of those plans highly vulnerable to misinterpretation. It could be interpreted more than one way, and upon its correct interpretation depended its success. And human nature was the determining factor as to which way the interpretation developed. So the start had not been wholly as expected. The meeting "agreed that the presentation of the National Project to our chapters has resulted in some misunderstanding among our members." The January *Link* was



"to present the project in the new light" and the National Project Committee was to be instructed "to use the chain-letter plan as a further means of contacting scattered alumnæ."

Suzanne Lighton, Epsilon, had resigned as chairman of the five-month-old National Project Committee. A replacement was decided upon, while national financial cooperation was worked out "for the erection of a new house" for Epsilon.

In order to make sure that everything issued officially about Zeta Tau Alpha was accurate and in harmony with national policy, "and since the Editor-Historian is the writing end of the fraternity, it was decided that direction, preparation and general approval of material of national scope be in her hands." This officer "was made ex officio to the national magazine chairman," and the current policy regarding national and province officer presentations in *Themis* was set down. Since the previous summer's convention had approved such a move, "a third volume of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*" was among the items discussed.

Zeta Tau Alpha then fell in line with the circulation plan coming more into usage among Greek groups. "As of May, 1942," *Themis* was to be mailed "to members' home addresses and a sufficient number of copies sent to each chapter house, those to be apportioned on the basis of chapter membership." The spring *Link* was to announce this change in policy, which would mean greater assurance that *Themis* would reach all college members.

Other *Themis* policies adopted were, "that the President write an annual message for the first issue . . . deadline, September 1; that the President send national announcements to the Editor by the deadline given in the calendar."

For some time one officer had been deeply concerned over a growing disposition to cut reports to the bone, imperceptive of the incomplete account of stewardship resulting in subsequent injury to the historical record that had to depend upon such documents for substance. While skeletonized, streamlined reports lessened the listening time of those assembled for the sole purpose of conducting the business of the fraternity and learning its story and progress during the two-year period between conventions, such sketchy accounts left no complete record of the actual happenings or background. It gave an incomplete, unrepresentative picture of the work done in various busy offices, and of prime importance—it left no accurate records for history. Recognition of this was given when "it was decided that in the future, officers' reports in greater detail will be attached to the verbatim minutes and that résumés of reports will be given on the convention floor."

Further, "in the future, copies of the verbatim minutes will be sent only to the President, Secretary-Treasurer and Editor-Historian . . ." the Editor-Historian's copy to "be sent first to the Constitution Committee chairman, and then forwarded to the Editor-Historian for her historical files."

The binding<sup>25</sup> of "one thousand sets of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*" was authorized, and the financing worked out.

Since the supply of the old one was exhausted, a discussion of the possible publication of a new fraternity manual in 1942 resulted in a "consensus [that] seemed to favor a compact compilation of national policies, et cetera, to supplement our national by-laws, and not containing any local chapters duties, et cetera. The Secretary-Treasurer [was] to submit a skeleton outline of a manual to National Council, after which certain sections . . . will be assigned to the various officers." An 8½" × 11" size was under consideration, "for enclosure in notebooks."

After a report on the "cost per plaque" for making up membership certificate plaques . . . it was decided "to have all certificates on hand made into plaques." The price was \$1.50.

All coorganizers were reappointed for the second term. The record was favorable for Chi chapter, then considering the purchase of a new house. Accumulative progress report blanks were to be brought up to date, "with all officers assisting, and the First Vice-President coordinating.

"After careful consideration, there was general agreement that suspension of Beta Upsilon's charter was the only possible course at this time," since everything possible had been done and the outlook was very dark. But a member of the Finance Committee was to go to Manhattan "to work on the matter of disposing of the house," and "a final decision" would be reached following the report of her trip. Arrangements were discussed for Beta Upsilon members to transfer to other chapters if they so desired.

Consuming much time was the subject of notebooks, which was introduced at the start of the meeting. It was finally "agreed that every national officer, national committee member and province officer shall have a loose-leaf notebook (8½" × 11"—3-hole paper) containing all information pertinent to the office, including content, routine duties, activities and recommendations." The President was to have "a master notebook containing copies of the pages in all other official notebooks." An officer who changed a page in her notebook was to "type the revised page and send it to the President for approval and for placing in the master notebook."

Since a number of the pages could be standardized, the Secretary-Treasurer, who was most interested in the notebooks, was to supply them to the various officers. She submitted material for the following pages: abbreviations, bulletins, province presidents' bulletins (outline), correspondence—policies, correspondence—carbon copies, expenses, filing policies, mimeographing policies and guide sheet, instructions regarding chapter reports, office supply sheet, voting, appointments. After considerable discussion, "revisions" were adopted. The Secretary-Treasurer was to send the pages to officers and committees. Whenever there was a change "in one of these standard pages, a new page will be

supplied and the old one will be destroyed. The page, 'Communications,' sent out by the President several months ago [was] to be considered one of the standard notebook pages."

When the meeting ended, the pre-World War II era ended, too. The dislocations and situations dictated by war developments were to set at naught plans laid for normal conditions. Other times lay ahead.

### National Council Meeting

(Evanston, Illinois—1942)

The United States had been plunged into war again when National Council met June 25-26, 1942, at the Georgian Hotel, Evanston, Illinois. Present were: Louise Kettler Helper, President; Lucile Reece Roberts, First Vice-President; Jane Carfer Theobald, Alumnae Director; Billy Ruth Young Rubottom, Membership Director; May Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Krieg Strout, Editor-Historian; Ella Waters Pfau and Margarethe Faulstich Livesay, Field Secretaries. The Second Vice-President, Helen Harrison, was unable to be present because of illness in her family.

With the second World War in full swing, "a war service program was discussed." Fifty-cent war saving stamps, instead of pennies, were to be contributed to the Golden Anniversary Fund on Founders' Day, and the meeting approved "the circularization of the alumnae membership by the Treasury Department, asking them to pay alumnae dues in war stamps, . . . those stamps "to replace the funds in an endowment fund." If constitutionally permissible "the acceptance of war bonds (series F or G) of \$39.50 in payment of life dues" was recommended for Finance Committee scrutiny. Some war service material distributed was to be incorporated in the work of the Alumnae Director with alumnae chapters. The Editor-Historian read a prepared draft of a letter regarding war stamps. Information on "bomb and explosion insurance" was to be secured for transmittal to house corporations and "for the duration, inspection reports [were to] include a section on war work." State Days were also to be promoted "for the duration."

Suggested standards and procedures for college chapters and the individual college members to follow were also drawn up.

Policies set up for Mothers' Clubs included: "1) Eligibility—Mothers of alumnae, college members, pledges, former pledges, patronesses." 2) Under "Organization," offices were to be held only by mothers of initiated members. 3) The by-laws mentioned officers (president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer) with a one-year term of office. The purpose: "to promote the general welfare of the college chapter by cooperation with the alumnae advisory boards, local alumnae chapter, college administration and national organization in maintaining the highest individual and fraternity standards." 4) In their gifts



for chapter houses or rooms they were to "obtain approval of the local adviser or corporation for the purchase of gifts."

The sale of membership certificates was to continue. Mimeographing was again discussed and deadlines for copy were set up.

Studied early were "the financial needs of our chapters, both immediate and for the duration." Five small loans were cleared and recommended to the Finance Committee. Only five chapters<sup>26</sup> were placed on the list of those considered not in the soundest financial condition and "which might need operating loans unless conditions improve." Beta Pi's projected purchase of a house at 818 East 15th Street, Eugene, Oregon, was discussed.

The White Violet blanks seemed important. Covering information given on them, the Secretary-Treasurer was "to issue bulletins to National Council, the chapter coorganizers and province presidents." College and alumnae chapters were to receive the blanks with an explanation that the information gleaned was "to be used for *Themis* and for publicizing throughout the fraternity."

Travel conditions and restrictions, directives and more directives—the war! And again the necessity of postponing a national convention. This time the course was clear, with a minimum of cogitation. And this time the legal machinery—furnished by the deep-in-the-depression 1933 convention—was at hand. So, "following a discussion of the possibilities of holding a national convention in 1943," the Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to take the prescribed constitutional steps "to postpone the 1943 convention to a date to be hereinafter decided upon (as authorized in Article I, Section 4, F2n)." And "the continued collection of convention fees on a normal basis" was favored. Appreciation was expressed to the Cincinnati alumnae, the mayor of the city, and a Cincinnati hotel for their cordial invitation to hold the convention there.

"In the summer of 1943 there [was to] be a meeting of National Council, the coorganizers, province presidents, and any other officers deemed necessary." Workshops were discussed, but the matter tabled.

Going over the 1941 convention recommendations, "action was taken where necessary." In the case of Number Two, "that some method be considered whereby the official delegate of an alumnae chapter to national convention might have her transportation assured, so that it would provide representation from all alumnae chapters to convention," the meeting decided to "consider the possibility of allowing alumnae chapters to participate in the convention assessment plan and that other plans be considered."

Approved was the detailed outline given by the Editor-Historian for the then-planned third volume of the *History of Zeta Tau Alpha*, which had been authorized in one of convention's adopted recommendations. Then "the discussion in this connection resulted in several other decisions": 1) Histories of individual alumnae chapters were to be omitted from the *History*. 2) National officers were to have "new pictures taken for the fraternity," and seven sugges-

tions were made about those pictures. 3) They liked "a policy of publishing a history for each ten-year period, with the third volume covering the period 1928-1929 to 1938-1939, and with the fourth volume covering the period 1938-1939 to 1948-1949."<sup>27</sup>

There was ardent discussion and wide variance of views in the finally adopted suggestion to recommend to the next convention "that when we install a chapter we may, if desirable, give the new chapter the name of an inactive chapter which can never be reinstated due to campus conditions."<sup>28</sup> It was referred to the Constitution Committee "for clarification." Then they moved "that corrections in the last constitution and by-laws be made in accordance with convention action and sent out to the chapters." These were to be printed and "sent out with the mimeographed material in the fall."

The plan of having province public relations chairmen was reported on in connection with the convention recommendation concerning a review of "the entire field of public relations. It was decided that the plan of having province public relations chairmen be discontinued."

A province convention wanted unchartered alumnæ clubs to receive *The Link*, the same as chartered alumnæ chapters. Since if an unchartered group received the same benefits as a chartered one there would be no incentive to charter, the proposal was rejected.

It was decided "to recommend to the next convention that Article VI, Section 1, B1 be amended to provide that the pin be sent to Central Office. Also that the names of all suspended members be removed from the *Themis* mailing list until such time as they are in good standing."

After discussing "a tentative outline" of chapter assistance it was moved to "establish a national policy that a member shall be expected to remain active as long as she is in college."

The question of handling the building fund pledges of members who transferred from one chapter to another was a new one to solve. Making a decision to cover the specific case cited, they "also decided to handle cases individually in the future, rather than establish a policy."

"Possibilities for redistribution and cutting the number of provinces were suggested," but no action was taken.

When two members<sup>29</sup> of the Finance Committee (meeting June 27-28) joined National Council for a discussion of matters concerned with finance, the National Project came up. Another chapter had been included in it, with an accompanying financial recommendation. It was also "decided that the National Project program be administered by the Executive Council, rather than the National Project Committee."

"The national policy regarding pledge dues was changed to start: 'If there is a difference in the amount of dues for members and pledges. . . ' and to in-

clude: 'Pledges not initiated at the end of the regular pledge training period must thereafter pay the same dues as initiated members.' Replacing the old one, this new policy and revised financial policies were to be mimeographed." Regarding repledging fees: "Every girl shall pay a pledge fee the year she is pledged, and national dues the second college year, regardless of whether she is a pledge or member."

"Magazine subscription promotion" was discussed in detail, a campaign theme decided upon and other plans made for invigorating the magazine subscription agency.

Other topics covered were: contracts, the budget, vacations, Health Center (they decided not to file suit against the driver who collided with the Health Center car) and the Manual of Information (with the publication goal set for a year later).

With delays and problems attendant upon war times, making strict publication dates increasingly difficult, they hopefully decided to give seasonal titles to *Themis* instead of monthly designations, namely, Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer. But they soon learned that this was against postal regulations. However, Central Office was instructed "to compile a list of pledges for publication in Winter *Themis*, and of initiates in Summer *Themis*."

A committee of three was "to promote, collect and arrange" a songbook. And awards were to be made on the "basis of the national fiscal year," ending July 31.

As befitted the times, it was purely a business meeting.

### 1942 Council Discussion

Unusual was the conference of national officers held in Evanston, Illinois, at the Georgian Hotel, November 16-19, 1942. The "discussion,"<sup>30</sup> record explained that "since five members of National Council expected to be in the vicinity of Evanston, Illinois, the week of November 16, 1942, it was decided to hold a conference and take up many matters needing attention." The five were: Louise Helper, President; Lucile Roberts, First Vice-President; May Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer; Ella Waters Pfau and Margarethe Faulstich Live-say, Field Secretaries. "Preceding the meeting, the members of the National Council and the Finance Committee were asked to submit questions and recommendations for consideration." All decisions of the unofficial meeting had to be referred to the full Council for final ratification.

Actually, at this time there were only three members on the Executive Council, for "two members . . . Jane Carfer Theobald, Alumnæ Director, and Billy Ruth Young Rubottom, Membership Director (both elected at convention the previous year), had resigned several weeks before," and those posts remained unfilled. They continued so for some six months thereafter, although "appoint-



ments for these and other vacancies were considered . . ." at this meeting.

First, the minutes of the June Council meeting were gone over and some corrections recommended. The President was to consult the donor of the Grand Chapter Award about renaming the trophy the "Achievement Award." Then the five discussed "the desirability of changing the design of our plain pin"<sup>31</sup>—the first suggestion of that kind ever to be made since the founding days. "A new design" was to be submitted "for the consideration of National Council."

By this time *Themis* already had carried the war work of the various chapters, and Zetas in the services were being regularly featured, but now "war service programs were considered." In accordance with the policy established at the 1942 N.P.C. meeting, that it was advisable for each fraternity to cooperate with established agencies rather than try to launch some new and "individual project," they decided to recommend printing in *Themis* the same program presented at the 1942 summer meeting. But they still were interested in what others were doing, for also to be recommended was "that further study be given to individual projects in the light of what other fraternities are doing, in the meantime promoting such individual chapter projects as are now at Houston, Shreveport, Washington, D.C., and so forth."

The recommendation that two charters be suspended came out of the "discussion of chapters." With the provision "that we expect to continue the chapter after the war," Beta Lambda's<sup>32</sup> suspension "for the duration" was one of the two listed. Alpha Alpha<sup>33</sup> was the other. Plans were to be made for an alumna "to go to Mt. Pleasant and discuss with members the best time to make action official." The condition and welfare of nineteen chapters warranted detailed consideration—not too extensive a list considering the war, and the times that preceded it.

"The vital importance of training a group of key alumnae in sure-fire rushing technique" resulted in the recommendation to approve the requested suggestions previously submitted by a particularly successful state rushing chairman. And if official approval were forthcoming, they urged "that a rush school be held during this college year . . . to be financed by the Convention Fund," since no national convention was scheduled for 1943.

Province presidents were to "be encouraged to write meaningful and purposeful letters to chapters such as: 1) Letters giving constructive criticisms and suggestions for news-letters. 2) Letters analyzing standards." One alumna was to be asked "to start and maintain a 'legacy' file"—something that did not work out.

After listing coorganizer and freshman scholarships for recommendation for the second term, they went rather exhaustively into such things as "printed matter" deadlines, preparation of copy, including eight manuals, numerous notebook pages and progress report blanks.

### Interlude: 1942-1943

The months elapsing between the June, 1942, National Council meeting and the next yearly one in 1943 saw drastic shifts and changes in Council personnel. As recorded at the November, 1942, unofficial conference of five officers, both the Alumnæ Director and Membership Director had resigned some months previously. By the spring of 1943, these new and largely uncharted offices were still vacant—all efforts to the contrary. Then two shifts provided the key. Two experienced officers assumed the unfilled new offices, while two new appointees were placed in the vice-presidencies. It was the first time that two elected officers voluntarily shifted to other offices.

Striking a timely note in its announcement of the new officer roster, *Themis* was remindful that "these are times of change in the lives of both individuals and organizations. On the Executive Council," the announcement ran, "Marion Jones (Withrow), Upsilon, becomes the new First Vice-President as Lucile Reece Roberts, Beta Gamma, former First Vice-President, assumes the office of Membership Chairman left vacant by the resignation of Billy Ruth Rubottom, Kappa; and Helen M. Harrison, former Second Vice-President, takes over the office of Alumnæ Secretary from which Jane Carfer Theobald resigned. The new Second Vice-President will be Lavone Eilerts (Dooley), Alpha Upsilon." There was still another change, however, for "the resignation in May of May E. Youngberg to enter the field of business called for the appointment of a new Secretary-Treasurer, with Mary Kammerer (Brecht), Chi, as the incumbent."

And so the roster stood in June of a fateful year.

### National Council Meeting

(Chicago, Illinois—1943)

In what would normally have been a convention year, the "annual meeting of National Council for 1943" became a greatly expanded session held June 19-27, in Chicago, at the Medinah Club. Officers present were: Louise K. Helper, President; Marion Jones Withrow, First Vice-President; Lavone Eilerts Dooley, Second Vice-President; Helen Harrison, Alumnæ Director; Lucile R. Roberts, Membership Director; May Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Strout, Editor-Historian; Beatrice Clephane, Finance Chairman; Ella Waters Pfau, Field Secretary. Attending "as guests were: Margareth Faulstich Livesay, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer; Mary Kammerer Brecht, outgoing member of the Finance Committee and incoming Secretary-Treasurer; Doris Murray Richmond, Finance Committee appointee. During the meeting Marion Wingate (Palin),<sup>34</sup> Zeta, was appointed Field Secretary and attended the remaining sessions." Several meetings were held in conjunction with the Finance Committee, also meeting in Chicago at that time.



Marion Jones Withrow



Marion Wingate Palin

As nearly as could be planned, this meeting had to substitute for a national convention, insofar as plans and contacts were concerned. Certain committee chairmen were called in for conferences, while a five-day training school was held for province presidents and selected key alumnæ. In spite of wartime travel conditions and restrictions, Zetas came from coast to coast and from Canada to Florida. While it could not be called a little convention, it was certainly an expanded conference with a heavy, detailed, ambitious program—planned by a meticulous President who, tragically, was destined not to carry it through to completion. For, after three days, the illness that caused her death a few months later “necessitated Louise Helper’s departure on June 21. Lucile Roberts acted as chairman the remainder of the time. Lavone Dooley was also called home by a death in her family on June 23.”

By this time convention postponements were fast becoming the order of the day, and government communiqués dealt specifically with such gatherings. So, when the possibility of a convention the next year was put forward, the final decision was to have “a business convention (in a central location) in 1944 if general conditions permit, representation to be confined to official delegates and personnel”—the fall *Themis* to make the announce-

ment. If, however, “a business convention is not possible,” they considered having “a national meeting similar to the 1943 meeting<sup>35</sup> and that wherever possible, sectional leadership schools be held.”

In discussing national programs it was decided that the fraternity service program embrace “Health Center, membership, golden anniversary, chapter house and civic needs.” This “broad program” was to be presented “to our members” through an article in *Themis* assigned to a member of the Finance Committee. Later displaced by another project, “the furnishing of amusement kits for hospitals in the rehabilitation of disabled servicemen” was to be recommended to the war service chairman as the fraternity’s national war service project. Continuation of “the general war-service program presented . . . in *Themis* this year” was the conclusion reached in the Council’s two conferences held later during a meeting with the chairman, Mary Porter (McCorkle), Omega. The amusement kits and “taking care of children with proceeds



to the Service Fund," were in addition. Also, the war service chairman was "to compile for publication a record of the war service projects of all the chapters in the fraternity," and with the guidance of two Council officers, work out articles for *Themis* in 1943-44 on the war service program. Information on alumnae chapter war service projects was to be secured by the Secretary-Treasurer "in every case where a report has not been received."

October, "our birthday month," was to be designated and publicized "as the month in which Zetas will make donations to the blood bank."

Again, members were to be asked to "send fifty-cent war savings stamps for Founders' Day." In stressing and encouraging the giving of birthday pennies on Founders' Day, "emphasis [was to be] placed on the Golden Anniversary Fund, rather than the National Project," since the latter (still in existence in 1943) was merely a project of the parent Golden Anniversary Fund.

The service program was "stressed to the province presidents" who were "asked to point out" to the chapters in their districts "that there is a diversity of interest and that chapters should not resent appeals made on phases which are not their particular interests."

The expression of the 1942 conference of officers had been accepted in the ensuing months, and action taken on revising the plain badge, for this meeting voted "to adopt<sup>36</sup> the Balfour sketch of the plain pin except to have the points more exaggerated."

The advanced stage of the proposed Volume III of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*, in the form previously approved by convention and subsequent Council action at the 1941 and 1942 meeting, was reported on by the Historian. The report, which followed the previously specified form, was accepted. Later, however, reversing the formerly accepted plan, a complete change in form and content voided changes previously made when there was a countermanding decision to have not three volumes but "to streamline the present two volumes into one volume, bringing it up to date." The extent of the histories of individual chapters was also to be limited "to data up to and through installation." Originating in the Finance Committee, the former highly successful record of the first two volumes was given as an influencing factor in the sweeping change which necessitated a new start and a new technique, abandoning much that had gone



Lavone Eilerts Dooley



Mary Kammerer Brecht

before. Also, the thought prevailed that it would be better not to have several volumes of *The History*, as previously approved and at times strongly urged.<sup>37</sup> By this time priorities, engraving restrictions, paper limitations, both as to quality and amount permitted, numerous government directives, and other war-time complications were fast making it evident that any actual publishing date would be problematical, if not indefinitely delayed, quite beyond any individual's control.

Since the seasonal names (Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer) preferred by the 1942 Council meeting proved to be in violation of government rulings at that time, a tentative try-out recommendation for October, December, March and June as the publication months for *Themis* was approved. The Editor then reviewed and discussed the numerous government regulations governing the magazine, for since 1942 the publishing world had entered a new era of restrictions, substitutions and directives. Instituting a change, the March issue was to carry a list of the pledges for the year, the June issue carrying the list of initiates. Although the number of pages was limited by the government's allotment of paper, they hoped each issue could find room for four specified blanks as well as a list of state membership chairmen and chapter rushing chairmen.

The Editor-Historian's recommendation "that someone be appointed to take over publicity" during these times was tabled permanently, later resulting in "a discussion of publicity policies for the duration." Rescinding the former complicated setup, "it was decided that the Editor-Historian be authorized to streamline the mechanics of publicity for the duration," while three press releases (to be in the form of notebook pages) were also agreed upon.

In the review of chapters, "action was taken on the two National Project chapters," Epsilon and Beta Pi, the latter being discontinued as part of [it] "for the time being."

Five policies for the re-establishment of chapters were adopted. Reinstatement of Beta Zeta was not to be undertaken that year "unless we have a well-worked out plan."

In the interest of good business practices, the Secretary-Treasurer was to "investigate the possibilities of establishing a policy that all chapter and house corporation treasurers be bonded." If an alumnae chapter found it impossible to hold the required number of meetings during the year, they were to be permitted to count Panhellenic and executive meetings as part of the year's total number of meetings.

Recommendation Number Two<sup>38</sup> from the 1941 convention was to be referred to the Constitution Committee with "a statement that National Council deems it impractical."

They decided "to establish a policy that chapter rushing chairmen be elected

immediately after formal rushing and that this be announced in the Fall *Link*."

Among the accepted recommendations of the philanthropy chairman were: That the committee be built up to its former size as soon as enough interested members [could] be found to serve on it; that the nurse's salary for the coming year be \$100 a month; that money be authorized for the making of Health Center's garden on Health Center land next year (previously a neighbor's land had been used); authorization for an "adequate file" for the chairman; that she visit the Center as soon as possible; that where alumnæ chapters find it impossible to obtain the necessary ten local dues annually to retain their charter, because of the scarcity of alumnæ in their locality, that guidance be given to them in contacting scattered alumnæ, and that dues so collected be credited to them, thus avoiding revoked charters.

Because of the wartime scarcity of help, the Chairman of House Directors was to "send a bulletin to house directors asking that each one work out a program to cover the household duties of each member and pledge."

They discussed "policies, personnel and problems of our house director program" with the chairman, Margaret McIntyre (Lacey), Alpha Kappa, who was asked to begin compilation of material for a house director's manual. Report forms remained unchanged, but the chairman was to send bulletins "periodically, indicating any changes in the house director picture."

Under the President's name, the next issue of *Themis* carried the meeting's redistribution of provinces designed "to bring about better equalization of province size, and to facilitate travel and general supervision in various sections." It was:

ALPHA: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina.

BETA: Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee.

GAMMA: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont.

DELTA: Ohio, West Virginia.

EPSILON: Illinois, Indiana.

ZETA: Louisiana, New Mexico, Texas.

ETA: Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma.

THETA: Canada, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin.

IOTA: Alabama, Florida, Georgia.

LAMBDA: Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

In the "day and evening" conferences held June 22 with committee chairmen, "in anticipation of the training school for province presidents, Health Center's budget and the philanthropic picture were discussed with the new chairman, Magnolia Bostwick Kerr (Platt), Omicron." To be stressed were: the payment of alumnæ dues, sensitivity "to the choice of the service project in which each



alumnæ chapter is interested"; urging "alumnæ to be broad-minded and co-operative even though they are not interested in each of our projects."

With the Magazine Chairman, Elizabeth Hillix (Foellinger), Alpha Xi: the magazine month was changed from November to September, copies of her August letter to chapter magazine chairmen were to be included when the Alumnæ Director sent her general letter to alumnæ chapters presidents the last week in August.

Province presidents attending the training school were: Alpha—Dorothy Culp (Wanner), Chi; Beta—Jo Pierce (Tenner), Mu; Gamma—Roxine Beard (Petzold), Alpha Eta; Delta—Janet Meyer (Popp), Alpha Eta; Epsilon—Genevieve Gragg (Gardner), Alpha Phi; Zeta—Margaret Miller (Jacoby), Alpha Psi; Eta—Anna Elliott (Cash), Tau; Theta—Edith Thompson, Beta Rho; Iota—Treva Mae Allen (Seepe), Alpha Zeta; Lambda—Beulah Blair Davis (Boucher), Upsilon.

One evening after a demonstration of ritualistic services, a cash honorarium was presented to May Youngberg, who was retiring after thirteen years in office—three as National Inspector and ten as Secretary-Treasurer. Writing in the next issue of *Themis* Helen Harrison said, "while this shows in a monetary way our appreciation, it cannot adequately express our genuine feelings for her fine and loyal service. . . ."

First a small number, then a greatly augmented group, a reserved part of the dining-room afforded the Zetas both privacy and an air *en famille*. On June 24 a buffet luncheon was given for the officers of Kappa Kappa Gamma and Kappa Delta who were meeting at the same hotel. The Kappas and Kappa Deltas also entertained the Zeta officers.

### 1944 Postponement

Louise Helper's last message to the fraternity told of the planned but unfeasible and never-attempted 1944 convention.

"According to a decision reached by National Council at its meeting in June," she wrote in the October, 1943 issue of *Themis*, "a business convention will be held in 1944, general conditions permitting." But "recognizing the uncertainty of the time," she added: "Should a business convention not be possible, a national meeting of some type will be held and wherever possible, sectional leadership schools<sup>39</sup> will be arranged for.

"We know that each of you will understand, cooperate, and realize that your national officers are acting in the best interest of the fraternity and the nation."

A few weeks later, Zeta Tau Alpha mourned the loss of this beloved leader. Louise Helper died October 10, 1943, after a comparatively short illness. She was succeeded by Lucile Reece Roberts. That fall Zeta's delegate to the Na-

tional Panhellenic Congress became Dr. May Agness Hopkins, former President, and first Panhellenic delegate.

It is doubtful if many really expected wartime conditions to permit holding a convention. Consequently, in the spring the new President announced the postponement of "the scheduled 1944 convention until such time as conditions make it possible for hundreds of Zetas to meet together again." In the meantime, the chapters had voted to allow part, or all, of their 1943-44 convention fees to be used in conjunction "with the purchase of a mobile blood donor unit for presentation to the Red Cross in memory of Louise Kettler Helper."

### National Council Meeting

(Chicago, Illinois—June, 1944)

When National Council's next annual meeting was held June 11-15, 1944, at the Medinah Club, in Chicago, Illinois, all officers were present except Dorothy Gibbons Gross, who was unable to attend. The leadership had inevitably shifted following the death of the President, and also a new Panhellenic Delegate had been added. The officer roster read: President, Lucile Reece Roberts; First Vice-President, Marion Jones Withrow; Second Vice-President, Lavone Eilerts Dooley; Alumnae Director, Helen M. Harrison; Membership Director,<sup>40</sup> Ella Waters Pfau; Secretary-Treasurer, Mary Kammerer Brecht; Editor-Historian, Shirley Kreasan Strout; Finance Chairman, Beatrice Clephane; N.P.C. Delegate, Dr. May Agness Hopkins; Field Secretary, Marion Wingate Palin; Extension Chairman, Dorothy Gibbons Gross. Following the President's opening remarks and "a general statement of the fraternity's progress the past year, silent prayer was observed in memory of Louise Helper, Zeta's late beloved President."

"In the postponement of the 1944 convention as a patriotic, wartime necessity," Zeta Tau Alpha, "like all other N.P.C. fraternities had cooperated with the Office of Defense Transportation's request that unnecessary wartime travel be avoided." The smaller group that assembled, therefore, "met with the added and recognized responsibility and inclusive coverage of a wide range of topics under a program planned for an inspirational and smoothly functioning year ahead, expediting activities in all departments and chapters. Previous to the National Council meeting, the smaller Executive Council group met in a day's session, followed by an evening's meeting with the Finance Committee<sup>41</sup> on June 10," *Themis* recounted. With a stiff schedule of "business sessions from early morning until late at night" no surprise attaches to the statement that "many important moves, decisions and recommendations resulted." But at this stage of the war it was hard to make either plans or predictions. When the question came up, the minutes said merely that "convention this year had to

be postponed due to our present war situation. However, as soon as circumstances permit, a convention will be held."

Health Center's course was drastically changed. Concurring in the Philanthropic Committee's recommendation to accept current local offers "for our rights and abandon the present location," announcement was made in June that "such a move was then to be made as soon as possible." Also reporting was the legally trained Finance Chairman, who had been on the ground. The inability to secure a clear title was again affirmed, although "negotiations to try to bring this about" had been begun. With the Finance Chairman authorized to "arrange the matter" in Virginia, "possibilities for a new site were discussed," but the decision was not to "approve any permanent program until the next convention."

Plans for the coming presentation of a blood donor mobile unit to the Red Cross in Cincinnati on June 7 were discussed, and the blood donor project surveyed. Continuation of the latter program was approved for another year. At one of the joint meetings of the Council and Finance Committee, it was decided "to transfer sufficient money at the end of the fiscal year from the Convention Fund to the Service Memorial Fund, to cover the difference between the amount collected from donations to the Fund and the amount necessary to cover the cost of the blood donor unit presentation, in accordance with the vote of the chapters."

In one line of the minutes, the previously suggested Chinese Scholarship Fund became official. The account in *Themis* explained that "the new Chinese Scholarship<sup>42</sup> project, a part of our general service program, was accepted as previously suggested, and details worked out."

Anticipating the later announcement of this important new award which was to be made, "the plan of the Louise Kettler Helper Life Membership Award was adopted."

The complete impracticability, if not impossibility, of publishing *The History* was an inescapable war casualty fact by now. The one-volume edition was the accepted size, however. Routine *Themis* matters were covered.

November, instead of October, was designated as magazine month. The present magazine campaign in *Themis* was to be continued, with members encouraged "to use and support the ZTA Magazine Agency." Stressed was the fact that "all profits are credited to the Golden Anniversary Fund, a broad, flexible fund used for the general advancement of the fraternity, including college chapters, et cetera."

Timely was the discussion and adopted motion that "ZTA stands for neat grooming, the observance of the social graces, et cetera, and that chapters, house directors and alumnae advisers be notified of our national policy on this; that standards be set up." A letter written by the President (to be posted on the bulletin board of each chapter) was decided upon—and sent via the fall



*Link.* They hoped "to stress and develop more and more" the new standards program—the promotion of personal development, good grooming and gracious living—which was to be combined with fraternity education.

In the field of awards, Delta chapter was announced as the winner of the National Achievement Award (the former Grand Chapter award). In the absence of a national convention, presentation was to be made at the college.

Possibly a forerunner of the 1946 action was the discussion of "the life dues of alumnæ." Finding "no way to approach the alumnæ on making partial payments on the \$50, the matter was tabled until the next convention."

Alumnæ desires transmitted included "1) a local project and 2) contact with national through visits by national officers." A fall letter was to contain "suggestions for the year's program, followed by one in the winter and possibly one in the spring. From then on, membership cards were to be issued to alumnæ who paid annual dues.

A definite extension plan of action was adopted for the next two years. Inactive Beta Zeta was again discussed, but no action was taken. Rushing and rushing plans were covered in detail, as was each individual chapter.<sup>43</sup>

"Important in the field of finances was the Secretary-Treasurer's presentation of a plan to revise the present system of college chapter financial reports, eliminating the double entry system" which had been a point of debate for a number of years. "For testing," the new plan already had been installed "in one chapter in each province this year, except Lambda, which is under a different commercial system. New printed forms, as presented, were to be set up in all chapters, also a member's ledger, reconciliation forms, a house pledge form (where not already set up) and a standard checkbook." A national policy called for "each chapter to set up a system of collecting house pledges during the college year, this to be included in the new budget forms." It was also recommended that a survey of outstanding loans be made and a recommendation was formulated for the next national convention that would bring all chapter loans into good standing. Preparation of a letter covering the rulings on federal taxes and social security, to be sent to the chapters and corporation treasurers, was authorized. "Interesting was the coming year's policy that chapter payments on house loans would be credited to the principal, unless the chapter wishes to continue to pay interest."

A source of gratification was the news that Beekman Tower Hotel (formerly Panhellenic House), in New York City, "was currently operating at a profit and was in excellent condition financially." Zeta Tau Alpha had been interested in it financially since its erection. "There was a full discussion of the various funds and investments, as well as a survey of all chapters, their housing, and all matters pertaining to their operation and future."

When they discussed "the setup of the new service book . . . as suggested at last year's meeting," it was decided to include (with instructions) four serv-

ices: 1) Pledge, 2) Initiation (except the V-), 3) Ritual, 4) Installation of officers. A separate manual was to contain: 1) Alumnæ Initiation Service, 2) Founders' Day Service, 3) Memorial Service; Funeral Service; Mothers' Club Initiation.

Other motions adopted included the changed policy that "all ritualistic and other required material be supplied to the chapters at cost; that province presidents be instructed to check chapters' ritual materials, and that new equipment be ordered when needed." Issuance of the new rushing booklet (which appeared in September) was authorized. All other phases of fraternity operation, management and offices were reviewed.

Also present at some of the meetings were Lois Faulstich (Hays), Alpha Pi, and GERALYN BAIRD (Harper), Beta Iota, Chapter Counselors. Conferences were also held with various chairmen and chapter officers nearby.

"The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to Lucile Roberts for the splendid way in which she had taken over and directed the affairs of the fraternity since the death of Louise Helper on October 10, 1943." In appreciation, a silver pin was presented to her by National Council and the Chapter Counselors.

The only "moments of relaxation" came just before the dinner hour one evening when Dorothy Hillix (temporarily transplanted by the war from Kansas City to Chicago) was hostess to the group in her apartment in the Lake Shore Drive Hotel. Then Gerry Baird's birthday was observed June 15. She was presented with a gift.

### National Council Meeting

(Chicago, Illinois, June, 1945)

"A happy year and a sad one, but a splendid year nevertheless, due to the devotion and hard work of all loyal officers," was the President's evaluation of the year 1944-1945, when the next National Council meeting opened in Chicago, Illinois, June 6-12, 1945, at the Edgewater Beach Hotel. "Several officers have been lost through resignations and one through death." Then, before the meeting proceeded, a moment of silent prayer was observed in memory of Beatrice Clephane. The decision was made later to present a silver bowl to Beta Alpha chapter as a memorial to her.

Again—somewhat reminiscent of the 1943 meeting—shifts and new appointments brought into being a new Council group. Stepping into the finance directorship left vacant by Beatrice Clephane's death, Lavone Dooley left the office of Second Vice-President to assume this important financial post. Treva Mae Allen (Seepe), Alpha Zeta (then president of Iota province), became the new Second Vice-President. The resignation of Dorothy Gibbons Gross resulted in the appointment of Marion Wingate Palin, Zeta, former

Field Secretary, as the new Extension Chairman. A Field Secretary had not yet been appointed. Lois Faulstich (Hays), Alpha Pi, had "done a magnificent job throughout the year," the record said. They considered returning "to the plan of having Field Secretaries inspect in one section of the country one year and the other section of the country the next year, the province presidents inspecting during the alternate year. One officer of mature calibre is needed who does nothing but inspect, while Chapter Counsellors do rushing work." Mentioned especially was the importance of having each officer's duties "well defined, with no over-lapping of responsibilities, or the overburdening of one officer."

The Council members assembled for the meeting were: President, Lucile Reece Roberts; First Vice-President, Marion Jones Withrow; Alumnae Director, Helen M. Harrison; Membership Director, Virginia Wartman; Acting Secretary-Treasurer, Helen Winton Jenkins;<sup>44</sup> Editor-Historian, Shirley Kreasan Strout; Finance Chairman, Lavone Eilerts Dooley (Second Vice-President until the shift decided upon in Chicago); N.P.C. Delegate, Dr. May Agness Hopkins; Extension Chairman, Marion Wingate Palin.

This meeting was, perhaps, distinguished not only by the volume of work and business covered, but by the minuteness of routine and detail considered. Almost nothing was omitted in the thorough going-over of fraternity functioning that started on June 6. Six days later a transcript of twenty-three full pages rivalled the twenty-six page record of the 1938 Grand Chapter meeting.

As usual, the chapters<sup>45</sup> were discussed in detail.

Because the First Vice-President was "moving to Chicago (from Washington, D.C.) a change in the geographical assignment of chapters" was worked out. Hereafter, the Second Vice-President was to have charge of Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta and Iota provinces. The First Vice-President was to be in charge of Epsilon, Zeta, Eta, Theta and Lambda provinces.

Six important major policies, with numerous sub-divisions, were adopted "regarding selection of membership."

Of the four specific locations favored when expansion locations were considered, two were to materialize in the next few years. Four steps covering a policy for extension procedure were adopted.

In anticipation of the golden anniversary convention two years hence, the Golden Anniversary Fund (which could be used in this connection) was to be keynoted in the alumnae dues letter prepared by the President and Alumnae Director. Promotion of the Chinese Scholarship Fund was to be included "merely as one of our projects."

Surveying the signal success of the Chinese Scholarship Fund, the Council voted to present a life membership to Geraldine Townsend Fitch, Beta Tau, "in appreciation of her contribution" to that Fund. Further, announcement was



to be made that "any money raised this year for the Chinese Scholarship Fund will be presented to Ginling College by Zeta Tau Alpha in Mrs. Fitch's name."

Getting closer to the life membership plan adopted a year later, the fee plan, as it was called in 1945, was presented by the President. The existing five membership categories<sup>46</sup> were considered confusing, with the confusion confounded by "the three types of certificates"<sup>47</sup> then being issued. After detailed examination accented the advantages, December 1 was set as the deadline for "the Finance Committee to make a complete study of the fee plan."

Dr. Hopkins announced that she was "turning over to the fraternity" the money in the fund named after her. Interest on the principal was to be used to continue the fellowship at the University of Texas.

The Founders, life members and honorary members were to receive "a special letter," while a recommended addition "to the constitution" would give honorary members life memberships and clarify their assignment to chapters.<sup>48</sup>

Recommendations concerning Health Center included: Authorization for the Secretary-Treasurer "to fill out the annual report blanks sent to Central Office each summer by the Commissioner of Public Welfare of Smyth County, Virginia"; a note of appreciation (from the Alumnae Director) to Dr. Boatwright, "for his interest and hearty cooperation"; continuation of the functioning of the local committee "in an advisory capacity," Edith Hoover, Beta Beta, a member of the Philanthropic Committee, to set up the suggested reorganization according to her proposed plan. Personnel was then suggested for a committee directed "to survey possible future service programs," compiling their findings "in a report for study of possible constitutional changes."

*Themis* plans for 1945-1946<sup>49</sup> were outlined by the Editor-Historian, including the relation of the standards program to the magazine.

While 1945 printing conditions were still highly adverse and paper was still subject to controls, "if circumstances (wartime publishing restrictions and problems) permit," publication of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha* in 1946<sup>50</sup> was recommended.

With a decorated cover sheet "if possible," *The Link* was to appear eight times during the coming years. The mailing list for the audit, *Banta's Greek Exchange* and *Fraternity Month* was worked out.

"In the future all crested novelties were to have the approval of Central Office," the contract with the official jeweler carrying that stipulation.

Routine was thoroughly gone over. Replacing the discontinued (printed) *Themis* subscription cards was an "alphabetical file of plain cards, printed on Central Office's recently (1944) acquired addressograph. Membership cards were to be reprinted, while the province president, not the province secretary-treasurer, was to keep a membership card file. Membership lists "will be

sent four times a year" to province presidents and each state membership chairmen, the latter "to have a geographical file of her area." The fall *Link* was to explain "the method of handling these files and lists." Future pledge forms were to be "in pad form"—three to a page.

The old order passed when it was noted "that various forms used are no longer to be called by letters of the alphabet, but will be known as follows:

Form I—Pledge Form; Form A—Initiate's Form; Form E—Membership Card; Form M—Change of Address Form; Form J—*History* Form; Demit—Transfer of Membership; Form C—Application for Transfer of Membership.

"To be printed and ready for distribution by September 1" was the revised letter to the parents of pledges,<sup>51</sup> which the Editor-Historian was again authorized to prepare. She and the Membership Director were also "to revise the rushing booklets."

Preparatory to revising the pledge manual (assigned to the First Vice-President), the Secretary-Treasurer was to request other fraternity manuals for perusal.

Planning special recognition for the members serving with the armed forces, a special card signifying "a paid-up membership for the duration" was to be presented in the fall to the Zetas in the services.

War-augmented moves had lengthened the already long list of lost members. In an earnest effort to locate these "lost lambs," each issue of *Themis*<sup>52</sup> was to carry a portion of the list until publication was complete. The Alumnæ Director and Secretary-Treasurer were going to work on the problem, too.

Extensive consideration was given the standards<sup>53</sup> program, which was still very new. A four-year program was suggested, and plans were outlined.

Dispensing "with the Scholarship Committee, except for the chairman" for the coming year, the latter's work was to be directed by the two Vice-Presidents and the province presidents.

When, after years of trial, this meeting discontinued "the plan of having a National Director of Chaperones," the "work was placed in Central Office, under the direction of the Secretary-Treasurer, assignments to be made in conjunction with the two Vice-Presidents and province presidents." A manual on the market was to "be consulted, considered and coordinated with our policies, customs and conditions"—that material to be included in the fall letter of greeting sent from the Vice-Presidents to the house directors. The collected material was to comprise a house director's manual in notebook form. These directors were to make specified monthly reports.

Ritualistic consideration included the possibility of "having a commercial company make the robes"—the ritual chairman to investigate and make a recommendation. A new method of supplying symbols was planned. Of the "two service books," the "one (blue cover) will include all secret services to be

supplied to college chapters." Included in the gray covered book would be the alumnæ initiation, Founders' Day service, et cetera, for both college and alumnæ chapters. The service for the installation of chapters was still to be separate. Book sizes were to remain the same.

Diligent in further developing the alumnæ field, the Alumnæ Director reported the chartering of four groups. The importance of having "a chapter or club wherever there is a college chapter" was stressed. The program of contact was to be continued.

As part of the year's service program they adopted "the promotion of an occupational therapy program whereby each alumnæ chapter shall sponsor and work on such a project in its individual alumnæ group." Also adopted was the "policy to encourage alumnæ to send magazines to hospitals."

During one of the several meetings when the Finance Committee was in conference with the Council, Doris Murray Richmond, as "acting chairman of the Finance Committee" submitted a budget which was accepted. That committee was to make "a thorough study of the financial structure of the fraternity as it relates to constitutional changes and future development—a definite time limit on this survey to be in relation to the date of the next national convention." And Council wanted them to think over bringing "all committee chairmen to convention" and giving them "the responsibility of their respective offices."

Among the financial policies listed were: 1) "That it is against the policy of Zeta Tau Alpha to pay any college chapter officer for any service rendered. 2) That an assistant treasurer be appointed with the approval of the advisory board within one month following chapter elections." Also noted was the "national policy that if a girl is not initiated after the first semester, her dues go to full membership." Permission to initiate could not be granted until "all local requirements had been met and all local fees paid." Complete instructions about this were to appear in the fall issue of *The Link*. The treasurers of chapters employing commercial auditing firms were to provide Central Office with a monthly "list of accounts receivable." And it was affirmed that "National Council members have authority to remove an individual who is not efficiently performing her duties."

Recommended to the Finance Committee was: the consolidation and re-financing of all loans at the current rate of interest, five per cent; that house loans made to chapters for operating expenses during the depression years be transferred to National Project loans; that the soon-to-be-reactivated Alpha Psi chapter be made a part of the National Project; that Epsilon's 1944 National Project loan be credited to their house loan instead, also any payment made that year.

Lavone Dooley was "to determine details of financing the remodeling of Epsilon's house with the view of re-establishing that chapter as early as pos-



sible." Also to be determined was "whether or not such remodeling would be possible at the present time with the view to doing it."

Another change in the financial system was put in motion when a year's trial of the accounting system used by Delta Chi was approved. "Chapter convention assessments were to be made on the former basis of \$50 or \$60 per chapter except in special cases." The Secretary-Treasurer, whose bond was increased from \$10,000 to \$25,000, "was to send monthly statements to corporations and chapters placed on a monthly payment basis in the refinancing program worked out by the Finance Committee at their meeting." A \$500 reserve fund for Central Office equipment was set up. In view of its financial possibilities, the magazine agency was to be promoted as much as possible.

Investigation "of the possibilities" of bonding local treasurers handling sufficiently large sums was recommended.

Since "it is in the interest of the fraternity to have this material in Central Office," college and alumnae chapters were to be asked to forward their Panhellenic House Association (Beekman Tower) common stock to headquarters "for safekeeping."

Important to future financial policy in regard to *Themis* or other promotional media was the adopted motion "that it shall be a national policy that any service project shall absorb the expenses of the promotion."

In "future discussions the accepted terminology" was to be either "house fund pledge" (for building, maintaining or furnishing a house) or "reserve fund pledge" for a chapter not having a house, the latter going into a chapter savings account.

Also authorized was a survey of the fees of other N.P.C. groups.

Discussing "chapter contributions to charity," a special bulletin was to advise "chapters of the approved agencies," as well as of those "not recognized."

Notebooks and notebook pages again consumed discussion time. "Paper-back folders, complete with index and all mimeographed material, were to be set up for each chapter chairman's notebook and sent to each chairman by Central Office."

The report on the memorial to Louise Helper indicated assurance of the presentation of the Life Memberships at the proper time.

As the seven-day meeting ended, the adoption of the President's eight-point program set a goal to be reached by 1948, and looked ahead to the golden anniversary convention. Mentioned was a committee study to ascertain the feasibility of acquiring a permanent home, or headquarters, to house Zeta's extensive historical collection, "and other things that may be allocated to it." Other points included were: the "fee plan"; a graduated *Themis* life subscription, scaled for pre-1923 initiates; re-establishment of "suspended chapters on those campuses to which we wish to return."

The heavy agenda was finished. A year later national conventions were to be resumed.

### The Eighteenth National and Seventh International Convention

Another war was over. The fraternity could again make plans and return to a normal convention schedule. But even in 1946 that was not easy, for the continuing heavy demands of the public, and the still-crowded hotels, made adequate sites difficult to secure.

A location was announced early in 1946 and in June, 306 Zetas<sup>54</sup> flocked to the Spink-Wawasee Hotel, at Lake Wawasee, in Northern Indiana, for the first national convention to be held since the pre-war days of 1941. The dates were June 20-25, and the attendance demonstrated that five years had not dimmed Zeta enthusiasm for conclave-attending. In that five-year interval, however, great changes had been wrought in the fraternity, not the least of which was the change in the officer roster as it read after the 1941 convention.

Following the reading of the President's report, the assemblage rose for a moment of silence, in deference to the beloved former President who died while in office.

But before the long-deferred meeting opened, the usual pre-convention Council meeting, followed by a school for province presidents, was held June 16-17, at the Stevens Hotel, in Chicago, because the convention hotel in Indiana was unable to accommodate the group. So, there was much moving about before getting settled for convention.

The full complement of National Council officers reading reports<sup>55</sup> included: President, Lucile Reece Roberts; First Vice-President, Marion Jones Withrow; Second Vice-President, Treva Mae Allen Seepe; Alumnæ Director, Helen M. Harrison; Membership Director, Virginia Wartman; Secretary-



Helen Winton Jenkins



Treva Mae Allen Seepe



Virginia Wartman

Treasurer, Helen Winton Jenkins; Editor-Historian, Shirley Kreasan Strout; Finance Chairman, Lavone Eilerts Dooley; N.P.C. Delegate, Dr. May Agness Hopkins; Extension Chairman, Marion Wingate Palin.

In terms of evaluation, history repeated itself—as it had done so often before—for this was another constitutional convention. While, “following the 1941 convention the Constitution Committee prepared for publication the constitution and by-laws revised to incorporate the new governmental setup passed,” five years later the 1946 conclave adopted a whole new constitution and set of by-laws—a process not classified as light entertainment.

The changes were many and involved everything from the financial setup to ritual procedures. Vitally important in the former category was the adoption of the life membership plan, and the campaign<sup>56</sup> launched at that time to make “every member a life member by 1948.”

Lucile Roberts, its sponsor, explained in the fall issue of *Themis*:

At all times, endeavoring to keep simple and practical the routine departmental functioning, National Council, after careful thought and study of methods and procedures, recommended a new Fee Plan, involving constitutional changes . . . Already the mechanics for operating the new plan are set up and functioning.

This new streamlined method of fraternity finance worked out by surveying audits and records for many years previous, is forward and progressive because it represents a substantial saving to the individual member, yet increases the national income, which is all-important in maintaining standards and services. This is achieved through combining separate fees which, if paid at one time, relieve the national organization and the individual member of endless detail in checking, rechecking, billing, then collecting (or paying) annual dues from both college and alumnae members. The elimination of expense in time and effort, plus the increase in the number of members in good standing financially (for automatically every initiated college member is in good standing) makes it possible to lower substantially the previous aggregate amount, at the same time tipping the balance upward for all concerned. The benefits are obvious.

Looking ahead still further, with the adoption of the Fee Plan the member *may* pay an additional \$10 any time while in college and have paid her life membership dues. . . . Alumnae come in for their share of benefits as well. Annual dues remain \$2. Life membership dues have been \$50. . . . Now life membership dues are \$10 if paid while in college or \$20 if paid as an alumna.

The money raised from the life membership drive launched in Indiana was “to be set aside for disposition in 1948 at the golden anniversary convention,” when it was thought that some project for its definite use would be decided upon. Many ideas had already reached the discussion stage by June 25.

Another drastic financial change placed most of the income, heretofore allocated directly to various funds, into the General Fund<sup>57</sup> from which allocation to these funds was to be made, according to the budget. This involved a new and simpler procedure in bookkeeping.

Explaining that “we have taken out all of the definite amounts insofar as possible in order to facilitate functioning and to keep from constantly having



to make constitutional changes" when fee amounts appeared in the constitution, the President reiterated that "when the convention accepts the budget they accept the amount of the fees. After all, the convention takes the action in accepting the budget, so they set the fees," thus allowing "convention to make changes from time to time as economic conditions change"—without necessitating involved constitutional changes.

New funds—the Hopkins Fund, the Louise Kettler Helper Memorial Fund and the Golden Anniversary Fund—were added to the list already included in the constitution and by-laws. Interest from the second fund, a gift from the Helper<sup>58</sup> family in memory of Zeta's eighth President, was to be used for the Louise Kettler Helper Memorial Awards, presented for the first time at this convention.

While Dr. Hopkins had announced her desire to return the Hopkins Fund<sup>59</sup> to the fraternity at the 1945 Council meeting, official incorporation of it in the constitution and by-laws as one of the official funds came at this time.

Other major changes involved the method of selecting province presidents. Previously elected by their constituents, hereafter they were to be Executive Council appointees although, unlike National Council appointees, they retained their convention vote. The delegate to the National Panhellenic Conference (its name was changed from Congress to Conference in November, 1945) was also empowered to act as Extension Chairman "when so assigned."

The 1923 convention's strategic combination of the Grand Chapter offices of Editor and Historian was altered but not nullified entirely when the latter important office was removed from National Council and it was specified that "a member of National Council may hold the appointment."

At least once in three years, every chapter was to have a visit from some member of National Council other than the Field Secretaries.

After a prideful convention learned that 92.5%<sup>60</sup> of the membership were life subscribers to *Themis* it promptly adopted "a graduated scale for *Themis* life subscriptions for those initiated prior to July 1, 1923.

It was also decided to send the November-December and January-February numbers of *Themis* to all non-subscribers as complimentary, introductory issues.

Other recommendations passed included the following: 1) "That the college chapter secretary send, by October 1, the name and address of graduates and others not returning to college, to the alumnae chapter in the locality in which the members expect to live. 2) That the Greek letters, ZTA, be adopted as an alternate recognition pin, with dimensions not to exceed 5/8 inch in length. 3) That the body of the report of the special service investigating committee be filed in the convention minutes. 4) That the convention empower the Service Committee, with the approval of the Executive Council and Finance Com-

mittee, 'to make such adjustments in our present program as it deems advisable and to enter such other fields of service as will make for a larger usefulness in the world.' 5) That alumnæ chapters be encouraged to participate in the present national campaign to alleviate human suffering due to cancer, by giving their services to their local cancer clinics. 6) That alumnæ and college chapters be encouraged to give annual awards and/or grants in recognition of outstanding scholarship and for the exemplification of the ideals of womanhood for which Zeta Tau Alpha stands."

Then, in connection with initiation: "Inasmuch as Zeta Tau Alpha has always had a tradition against mock initiation, it is recommended that a program of suggestions be worked out for an inspirational Zeta Tau Alpha week end to replace all types of informal initiation and Hell Week. This program to be worked out along the lines of the article on page 26 of the November-December, 1945 issue of *Themis*." Also, it was hoped "that each chapter will seriously consider its every use of candles and be certain that there shall never be a tragedy from fire in any Zeta Tau Alpha house."

Especially pertaining to pledges was the reiteration of the policy that "no ZTA college chapter shall pledge any girl without having first received an acceptable recommendation."

Convention also decided

... that all members of all college chapters of Zeta Tau Alpha [shall] make every effort to emphasize the enduring element of friendship and loyalty inherent in the fraternity and refrain from allowing or requiring the performance of any belittling or humiliating tasks, self-imposed or otherwise, by any pledge. Friendliness and individual initiative of the members of college chapters should be equal to the task of devising constructive methods of earning fraternity points without resorting to chores, errand running, and other time-consuming means of earning points. Since there is a large amount of agitation throughout the country against fraternities, it behooves us as fraternity women to rise above all petty abuses within the fraternity and emphasize the lasting worth of intimate association of members and enduring loyalty to our fraternity. We hope that Zeta Tau Alpha chapters throughout the United States will be recognized as the leaders in such a movement.

Following an impromptu speech about the someday-possibility of a permanent headquarters, convention moved that "the Executive Committee, Finance Committee and House Advisory Committee be empowered for the study of and looking forward to the establishment of a permanent residence that will house Central Office and a historical museum."

The Memorial Service which was used at convention was adopted, as was "the ritualistic form for the installation of a new chapter as accepted at the round-table." The Ritual Committee was "empowered to simplify and bring into conformity all ritualistic forms with the initiation service," and "to make certain trial-changes in the ritualistic forms to be used during the next two years, pend-

ing action at the 1948 convention." Other ritualistic decisions included the elimination of the Funeral, Mothers' Club and Patroness Services.

The exhibits which were accented at this convention became popular browsing spots, where Zetas returned again and again to make notes or even read snatches of books. They were outstanding, as well as ambitious and extensive in scope, and in their different presentations their importance was emphasized. The first afternoon was given over to roundtable discussions at the *Themis*, publicity, alumnae and college chapter exhibits,<sup>61</sup> which were conducted by Mrs. Strout, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Withrow and Mrs. Seepe, after those officers gave graphic introductory talks explanatory of the exhibits.

Roundtables were stressed, too. They were: Alumnae (led by Helen Harrison); College (led by Marion Withrow and Treva Mae Seepe); Publicity (conducted by Shirley Strout); Standards (conducted by Margarethe Livesay); Service (led by Doris Murray Richmond); Scholarship (Mrs. Seepe and Mrs. Withrow); Rushing (Virginia Wartman).

In line with holding the fiftieth anniversary near the fraternity's birthplace, the Greenbrier Hotel<sup>62</sup> at White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, was chosen as the site for the golden anniversary convention.

A few months later, for the first time since 1941, *Themis* was able to present a full roster of National Council sketches and pictures. After convention elected the first five, the Council personnel became: President, Helen M. Harrison; First Vice-President, Marion Jones Withrow; Second Vice-President, Treva Mae Allen Seepe; Alumnae Director, Marion Palin Wingate; Membership Director, Virginia Wartman (Executive Council—elective); Secretary-Treasurer, Helen Winton Jenkins; Editor-Historian, Shirley Kreasan Strout; Finance Chairman, Lavone Eilerts Dooley; N.P.C. Delegate-Extension Chairman, Lucile Reece Roberts; Field Secretary, Patricia Sparling (Benn), (appointive offices).

While a convention program usually alternates business meetings and social functions,<sup>63</sup> 1946 deferred business sessions until the second day. Epsilon province's opening luncheon—with the province president, Genevieve Gragg Gardner, extending the official welcome—led off the social events, and distributed attractive programs containing "some of Zeta's most-sung songs."

After the "chain-of-chapters" formal dinner that night—when forty-page song-books compiled by Dorothy Wanner were distributed and Alpha Kappa members entertained—a reception honored the members of National Council. Then everyone "trooped over to the convention hall for an Epsilon province-sponsored stunt night."

The all-white day began early with a seven o'clock memorial service conducted by Dr. Hopkins. For the first time since the service became a convention tradition, the names of national officers appeared on the memorial list. Chapter



representatives placed white carnations on the memorial altar for their departed members, and three national officers, Mrs. Strout, Mrs. Roberts and Mrs. Withrow laid the fragrant blooms on the altar in memory of the three national officers lost since 1941: Bruce Houston Davis, second National President; Louise Kettler Helper, eighth National President; and Beatrice A. Clephane, Finance Chairman from 1941-1945.

The moving service itself, and the candlelight breakfast which followed, set the tone for the all-white day. Dora Witherspoon (Davenport),<sup>64</sup> the convention initiate, was pledged in a noon service conducted by Mildred Kelleher, Kappa, and Elizabeth Ann Stollenwerck, Omega. The Fee Plan Luncheon followed. Although the Indiana weather was acting up—it was windy and gray—when it was time for the picture, it turned out well.

Winnipeg's Edith Thompson, president of Theta province, presided over the White Dinner with characteristic dignity, introducing the two guest speakers—Miss Jeanette Scudder, dean of women at the University of Arkansas, and Mrs. Davenport. Guests carried away blue-and-white crested programs and white satin sachet favors. After the banquet Mrs. Davenport was initiated in services<sup>65</sup> conducted by the Executive Council.

Saturday's "Can You Top This?" luncheon was sponsored by Lambda province, whose program booklets contained twenty well chosen maxims appropriate for use as opening thoughts at chapter standards meetings.

Delta province's model rushing dinner used the well integrated theme of "hitch your wagon to a Zeta star," so stars that danced across the dining-room were attached to colorful flower-laden-wagon centerpieces on each table. Ruth Brooker, Alpha Rho, was narrator of the rushing skit (written by Virginia Wartman) based on music from "Carousel." Jeanette Bertram Chapman, president of Delta province, was the toastmistress. The dinner set the pace for the rushing skits that followed in convention hall—also arranged and conducted by Virginia Wartman.

The foreign dancing dolls, mortar boards and tiny Chinese parasols that decorated the luncheon table on service day highlighted a "service through scholarship" theme. The list of services rendered by Zeta, both nationally and through college and alumnae chapters, was read by Doris Richmond, and recognition was given Zeta daughters and sisters in attendance.

As seen through a delegate's eyes, "convention took on a less formal air as delegates and officers donned play clothes that night and gathered on the lake-front lawn for Iota province's beach party." Before it was over it included everything from mounds of fried chicken, gallons of iced tea and strawberry shortcake for dessert, to province singing, impromptu skits and dancing, take-offs of national officers, and sea-shell-earring favors.

Indian, not Greek, was the atmosphere of the final banquet when the presidents of Eta province chapters, dressed in hand-made Indian costumes and with a wealth of authentic detail, conducted a solemn Indian ceremony. As they sat on the floor with true Indian dignity, Irma Gaebler Hill, Alpha Psi and St. Louis Alumnæ, recounted "whence these legends and traditions," as she unfolded the story of the Indians in this country and the depth and rich significance of their symbolism and ritual.

The highest chapter honor—the Achievement Award—was presented to Alpha Tau chapter whose "members crowded around the speakers' table to receive congratulations . . . and for their delegate to receive, in lieu of the beautiful silver bowl,<sup>66</sup> a bunch of white carnations from Delta chapter's delegate, for Delta was given the bowl in 1943 ceremonies at Randolph-Macon Woman's College when the war made a convention impossible that year." Mu received the runner-up plaque, while Gamma Gamma placed third.

Chapters receiving scholarship plaques for placing first for two consecutive semesters or three consecutive quarters were Beta Epsilon, Beta Beta, Beta Omega and Beta Nu (repeat performances), Beta Theta, Mu, Alpha Mu and Gamma Gamma (the latter first for nine consecutive semesters).

Music and singing paced the meeting with lovely tunes and the introduction of delightful new songs. With interest stimulated even before convention, it became a singing conclave lifted to vocal buoyancy by Dorothy Culp Wanner, convention's musical director. And there were rewards.

A gold compact rewarded Lucile Mead Lamb, Upsilon, who wrote the winning words for the haunting music Dorothy Wanner composed especially for convention. Her entry was "Song of the Pledges." Honorable mention went to Mildred Snowden Smith, Xi, and Lucille Killough, Alpha Psi.

Alpha Tau's "Zeta Friendship," written by Nancy Day, won the plaque for the best original words and music. Beta Chi's "Zeta Pride Waltz," by Gloria and Bernice Goechler, and Tau's "Always," by Simone Schinneman, received honorable mention. Beta Epsilon's "I Am A ZTA" was judged to have the best original words set to familiar music. Alpha Tau and Alpha Kappa received honorable mention for "I Hear the Call of Zeta" and "Thoughts of You." Alpha Rho also received special honorable mention for "Lullaby for Alpha Rho," written by Virginia Wartman.

Alpha Tau received a small silver dish for the best convention exhibit (a chart showing the duties of the chapter vice-president). Mu's scholarship exhibit was judged second best. In the rushing exhibits, Alpha Beta's scrapbook won. The Winnipeg Alumnæ took home a large scrapbook for the best alumnæ exhibit, while Alpha Xi won a scrapbook for attendance. Indiana also took alumnæ attendance honors. A gavel went to the Indianapolis Alumnæ. Silver bracelets went to the five Beta Chis in the prize-winning rushing skit.

In the magazine contest, Beta Epsilon received \$15 for selling \$107 worth of

magazines the previous year, with Mu next and Alpha Omicron third. Kansas City, with sales of \$296, placed first among the *alumnæ* groups, Washington, D.C., second, and Portland third. Lambda had the highest score among the provinces. Epsilon was second and Alpha third.

This convention marked the first presentation of the Louise Kettler Helper Memorial Life Membership Awards. The Louise Kettler Helper Memorial Fund, established by the family to honor and perpetuate her memory in the fraternity, provided for two biennial Life Membership Awards, to be presented at conventions—one to an alumna who, in the Council's estimation had made the greatest contribution to the fraternity, and one to the college member making the greatest contribution to her chapter and thus to the organization.

A diamond pin was the fraternity's gift to Lucile Roberts, the retiring President, who also became the first recipient of the Louise Helper Memorial Award,<sup>67</sup> for the most valuable *alumnæ* contribution. The award to the college member went to Ruth Romaine, Phi's president, who was also president of Duke University's Panhellenic.

The evening ended with what was probably the biggest surprise of convention—the announcement that Dr. Hopkins, third National President from 1908-1920, had been given the honorary title<sup>68</sup> of President Emeritus. The beautifully illuminated scroll presented at this concluding banquet told the story in one significant paragraph:

With appreciation and gratitude for the significant contribution and in recognition of those many years' participation and devotion to the advancement of Zeta Tau Alpha as a national organization, we, the Executive Council of Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity, by unanimous vote, on June 14, 1946, do hereby confer upon Dr. May Agness Hopkins, the honorary title of President Emeritus.

It was the first time that such a title, or honor, had been bestowed by Zeta Tau Alpha. The recipient was speechless with surprise, so well-kept had the secret been.

At the spontaneous reception which followed in the lounge, awards were admired and owners were congratulated. As the scroll presented to Dr. Hopkins was admiringly scrutinized, more than one member's resolve turned dictionary-ward in regard to that word *emeritus*.



Dr. Hopkins in 1946



Wrote Elaine Sell, Alpha Kappa: "the atmosphere of convention . . . carried through until the last morning when Alpha province's 'Carry Me Back to Ole Virginny' breakfast gave promise of what the 1948 golden jubilee convention would hold."

And on that back-to-Virginia note the first post-World War II meeting ended, expectantly attuned to a 1948 already set up in gold in Zeta hearts.

### National Council Meeting

(Evanston, Illinois, June, 1947)

After several meetings in Chicago, the Council members assembled in Evanston for the 1947 meeting which was held June 2-9, at the North Shore Hotel. The full roster of officers attending included: President, Helen M. Harrison; First Vice-President, Marion Jones Withrow; Second Vice-President, Treva Mae Allen Seepe; Alumnæ Director, Marion Wingate Palin; Membership Director, Virginia Wartman; Secretary-Treasurer, Helen Winton Jenkins; Editor-Historian, Shirley Kreasan Strout; Finance Chairman, Lavone Eilerts Dooley; N.P.C. Delegate-Extension Chairman, Lucile Reece Roberts.<sup>69</sup>

Heading the agenda was the usual survey of chapters,<sup>70</sup> covering conditions, needs, housing, et cetera. This was finished on June 5.

Especially precautionary was the action taken during the discussion of problems in connection with "future building projects [which] will be on university property." Action was recorded that the "lease must be made direct to the national fraternity, with specific clauses that the national fraternity can sell the house if the chapter fails or the university requests the chapter to leave the campus." Future and in-progress building programs included Beta Pi's new house and Epsilon's pending one—the latter to "be as large and elegant as any other on the campus."

From the President's "report of the Dean's Conference" it was stressed "that the peak of college enrollment was expected to continue until 1952," and that four trends among college women had to be coped with on college campuses. Zeta Tau Alpha's continued representation at the annual meeting of the National Association of Deans of Women was recommended.

Six "general comments and recommendations" were covered in the retiring Field Secretary's final conference, after which Council's appreciation was extended to Patricia Sparling (Benn) for the splendid work "done for the fraternity in her travels this year." The meeting placed the Field Secretary "on a ten-months' basis" and Wanda Garver was appointed for the coming year.

Wanda's "excellent work" in organizing the group that would soon be Gamma Theta chapter was recognized by a vote of thanks. A pre-N.P.C. date was set for the Colorado installation, to be preceded by initiation of members at the beginning of the college year.

Officially listed as to title were: Field Secretary, Chapter Counselor, Colonizer, the latter to be recognized in accounts of installations.

Steps were taken to select a new service project, when Council members listened to a presentation of the work of the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Incorporated, by a member of the staff. This meeting also heard a report<sup>71</sup> on the closing of Health Center.

Central Office's 1947 personnel status was indicated when the increase voted for its salary budget included allowance "for two full-time auditors and two other full-time girls, with a part-time addressograph operator." The present policy of selling all fraternity novelties through "this office was continued while the possibility of having the magazine agency handled away from Central Office was considered."

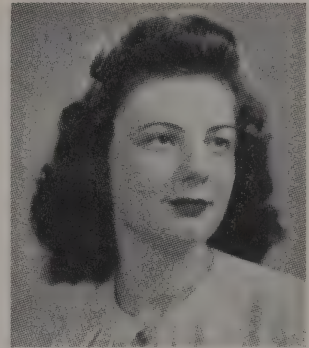
When deferred rushing was discussed, the need of informing uninformed alumnae on the highly unsatisfactory results and aspects of that plan were recorded as something that needed attention. Thirteen extension sites were scrutinized, with the University of Florida coming into the picture.

A review of the alumnae world disclosed room for improvement in the number of annual dues received, the decrease recorded possibly being due to the fact that the fraternity was between service projects. Service memorial contributions made by individual alumnae and alumnae groups were to be compiled by the Secretary-Treasurer. Alumnae charter grants were to be announced in *Themis*, and the Summer issue was to be "mailed to all Zetas on the list." Adopted as a policy was "having alumnae groups inaugurate a system of cards whereby a member moving to another city" carried "a letter of introduction to the new group," and the alumnae chapter forwarded a card of introduction.

Adjusting to changing times and climbing costs, alumnae letters thereafter were to appear only in the January-February issue of *Themis*. The "membership directory" was slated to appear in the Summer and Winter numbers of the magazine while, for reasons dictated by agitation caused by critics of the fraternity system, the recommendation blank was to be omitted. The directory was "to be run whenever there is sufficient space," and a Health Center story was "still to be carried." More nearly coinciding with an October 15 date, the President's Founders' Day Proclamation was to appear first in *The Link*. The



Patricia Sparling Benn



Wanda Garver

long-time *Themis* policy of not printing engagements was reiterated, and issuance of the new *Themis* Handbook and Rules of Style was reported.

The Editor-Historian, "whose silver anniversary was discussed," reported on the new Zeta section being prepared for the forthcoming issue of *Baird's Manual*. She was also to revise the letter sent to the parents of pledges. The pictures of province presidents were to be carried in conjunction with the accounts of province meetings. Discussion covered other points. When it was "agreed that a deadline is a *deadline*," that terse sentence covered an urgency in the matter of observing *Themis'* deadlines. The first *Link* was to carry an announcement regarding definite deadlines for the magazine.

The decision to have convention's model initiation conducted by selected chapter officers ("as an honor for that chapter"), instead of by already over-taxed national officers, effected a modern modification of a custom started nearly half a century ago when Grand Chapter gave the first service. The Editor-Historian was assigned to write the inscription for the fiftieth anniversary plaque to be dedicated at Longwood College, in 1948. Its designing was to start at once. Zetas who had served in the war were to have their names permanently recorded in a service book which would become part of the fraternity's archives, the same officer being in charge of the assignment. Consideration was given to placing the membership certificate, the coat-of-arms and *The Creed* on plaques.

Because a change in terminology had taken place since the 1926 adoption of the Grand Chapter guard, the formal policy drawn up at this time specifying those eligible to wear that torch guard was a much needed clarifying action. The decision at that time was that, "Executive Council members only are entitled to . . . receive the guard after having served a full term of office. Any member having served a full term on Grand Chapter or Executive Council is entitled to wear the guard the remainder of her life."

Recommendation "to convention that the Contingent Fund be named the Golden Anniversary Fund"—as a "memorial to the fiftieth milestone"—followed a review and clarification of the Golden Anniversary Fund by the Editor-Historian. It was then voted that "until such time as action can be taken by convention, the Contingent Fund [will] be known as the Golden Anniversary Fund in accordance with the original concept of the purpose of the Fund."

The eventual adoption of an official flag grew from the meeting's decision to authorize a "worthy pledge" to draw up a design. Since the use of a flag was scheduled for Gamma province meeting, the Membership Director was to give Council a report.

Another national policy adopted reiterated that all second-year pledges were to pay a national repledging fee.

A pledge mistress manual, the same size as the *Pledge Manual*, was to be printed, as was the national constitution and by-laws, "using the same size as



the 1941 edition, with gray cover." In view of the new one to be published, there was to be "no reprint of the present *History of Zeta Tau Alpha*."

*The Crown and Shield* was foreshadowed when an "alumnæ paper was discussed." Included in the outlined contents was the annual dues letter to alumnæ. Fall publication was planned.

Special permission was granted a chapter to initiate its house director "at the end of her term, in token of her long service to the chapter."

One chapter was removed from national supervision. West Virginia was transferred to Gamma province. Consideration of "Coorganizer and Chapter Counselor possibilities" resulted in three selections being made. Province, committee, and some convention appointments were considered. Installation and province convention initiatives were approved. National finances were gone over.

It was a hard working, all-business meeting the year before the golden anniversary.

### The Golden Anniversary Convention

The golden haze of a golden anniversary transformed 1948 into a memorable year of years for Zeta Tau Alpha, full of unforgettable memories, milestones and events. It shimmered with dazzling brilliance during the June convention, the opening phase of the golden jubilee year, when the fraternity returned to its home state for a brilliantly successful convention<sup>72</sup> held June 25-30, 1948, at the Cavalier Hotel, Virginia Beach, Virginia. Even the location had a nostalgic note, for even at the end of the nineteenth century, house parties at the Beach figured in the entertainment pattern of the Farmville college girls.

Co-starring at convention were seven of the "first ladies of Zeta Tau Alpha," who were the honored guests of the fraternity they founded. The gracious and charming southern gentlewomen,<sup>73</sup> who completely captivated the 350<sup>74</sup> attending were: Miss Alice Bland Coleman of "Greenwich," Sassafras P.O., Gloucester County, Virginia; Mrs. Arthur Van Name (Ethel Lee Coleman), West Point, Virginia, who was living in Urbanna, Virginia at that time; Mrs. William S. Hundley (Della Lewis) and Mrs. S. B. Batte (Mary Campbell Jones), of Norfolk; Mrs. A. M. Orgain (Ruby Bland Leigh), Dinwiddie, Virginia; Miss Frances Yancey Smith, Charlotte Court House, Virginia, and Miss Helen Craf-ford, Lee Hall, Virginia. Alice Grey Welsh, in far-away Honolulu, was the only missing one of the remaining eight.

This anniversary had been eagerly anticipated for many years. Thus, the sentiment, loyalty and devotion of half a century were poured into it. Highly inspirational, the smooth functioning convention was the result of months of painstaking work and detailed planning on the part of those responsible for it.

Preceding convention was the usual Council meeting, attended by Helen M. Harrison, President; Marion Jones Withrow, First Vice-President; Treva Mae Allen Seepe, Second Vice-President; Edith Thompson,<sup>75</sup> Alumnæ Director;

## *Zeta's Founders in 1948*



Mary Campbell Jones Batte



Ethel Lee Coleman Van Name



Ruby Leigh Bland Orgain



Alice Bland Coleman

*Zeta's Founders in 1948*



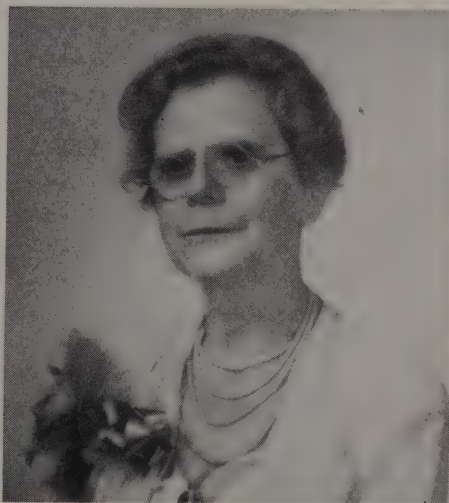
Helen May Crafford



Della Lewis Hundley



Alice Welsh



Frances Yancey Smith





Edith Thompson

Virginia Wartman, Membership Director; Helen Winton Jenkins, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kreasan Strout, Editor-Historian; Lavone Eilerts Doolley, Finance Chairman; and Lucile Reece Roberts, National Panhellenic Delegate.<sup>76</sup> A one day's training school for province presidents<sup>77</sup> was conducted by the officers the day before convention opened. And it was hot, and it continued very hot all during the week.

During Council's busy days prior to convention's opening, Miss Harrison, Miss Thompson and Mrs. Strout participated in a Zeta Tau Alpha broadcast over Radio Station WTAR, Norfolk, Virginia. The script was prepared by Ruth Brooker, Alpha Rho.

True to the note that carried through the entire meeting,<sup>78</sup> a presentation keynoted the opening business session,<sup>79</sup> when Xi chapter presented the National President<sup>80</sup> with a specially engraved gavel to use at convention—thereafter to become her own personal property. On the platform was a gorgeous golden basket of golden flowers from Kappa Delta and another lovely one from Phi Mu.

Named after the fiftieth milestone and perpetuating its memory, the Golden Anniversary Fund<sup>81</sup> (inaugurated in 1938) was made a permanent fund.

A special observance of the 1948 Founders' Day was decided upon. College chapters were to invite faculty, Panhellenic and alumnae representatives, as well as community friends, to functions of their own selection, such as teas and receptions. The usual birthday pennies contribution, where possible, was increased to include a special gift, with each member giving two pennies instead of the usual one, for each of Zeta's fifty years. The Ritual Committee was authorized to write a new Founders' Day Service especially for the coming anniversary on October 15, to be sent to college and alumnae chapters prior to that date.

According to a recommendation adopted, "all chapters [were to] conform strictly to the present fraternity regulations concerning the clearance of rushing recommendation cards through their respective state membership chairmen." The pledge, initiation and ritual services as given at that convention were adopted, as was the alumnae initiation service which was included in the 1947 alumnae service book. Taken from the constitution was a half-century-old membership qualification phrase.

With the fiftieth year accomplished, authorization was given to start formulating plans for a diamond jubilee fund.

With the official stipulation that "life membership dues be paid within the first year following initiation," all initiates thereafter became possessors of life memberships. The life dues campaign<sup>82</sup> had netted some 3,335 members to date, and "October 15 was set as the final date for joining the Golden Anniversary Club, started at the 1946 convention."

Designs for an official flag were to be submitted to the 1950 convention. Publication of a revised songbook was authorized, as was promotion of an intensive magazine subscription campaign.

Of chief interest to the alumnæ was the decision to continue work with the cerebral palsy division of the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults, continuing to raise money for the publication of an equipment brochure. This became the new national service project. A financial goal was set for the two-year period.

A financial policy adopted specified that no scholarship loan was to exceed \$300. "The Life Dues Reserve accumulated through the golden anniversary life dues campaign was to be transferred to the Service Endowment Fund."<sup>83</sup>

With the five elective officers of National Council returned to office by



NATIONAL COUNCIL in white evening gowns, following the Founders' Banquet. In front, with skirts swirled gracefully, Helen Winton Jenkins (left) and Virginia Wartman. Seated (at left), Shirley Kreasan Strout; (at far right), Edith Thompson; Treva Mae Allen Seepe. Standing (left), Wanda Garver, Lavone Eilerts Dooley; Marion Jones Withrow (on arm of chair); Helen M. Harrison; Lucile Reece Roberts (seated on arm of chair).

unanimous vote, the Council personnel remained the same when convention closed. The full complement of officers was: President, Helen M. Harrison; First Vice-President, Marion Jones Withrow; Second Vice-President, Alumnæ Director, Edith Thompson; Membership Director, Virginia Wartman (Executive Council-elective); Secretary-Treasurer, Helen Winton Jenkins; Editor-Historian, Shirley Kreasan Strout; Finance Chairman, Lavone Eilerts Dooley; N.P.C. Delegate, Lucile Reece Roberts; Field Secretary, Wanda Garver.

When the Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, Michigan, was selected for the 1950 convention, a repeat performance was scheduled, for the 1939 convention had been held there.

Appropriately, Zeta's treasured Historical Exhibit was an important golden anniversary feature. "To step into the exhibit was to step into a different world"—one that translated the ephemeral past into actualities that one could see and touch. "It was the world of the past on which the present had builded, and without which there could have been no present."

At the National Historian's private preview for the Founders, the seven relived the founding days and saw, for the first time, the mounted and carefully preserved mementoes which they, themselves, had been sending the Historian through the years. "Two rooms jam-packed with historical treasures brought exclamations from and memories to these earliest members," said *Themis*. The exhibit was open each afternoon from four until six o'clock. Members of the Boston Alumnæ, Detroit Alumnæ and Wellsburg Alumnæ acted as hostesses. Among the many additions to the extensive collection were: Bruce Houston Davis' jewelry, including the ring given her by the 1908 convention, and the fraternity jewelry of Louise Kettler Helper. Both were donations from their families. Also shown for the first time was the official chain of Zeta Tau Alpha, which especially captivated the college delegates.

Love and appreciation were expressed when the Founders, in correct parliamentary procedure, took action to adopt officially the national officer who had been close to them ever since she took office, and who had meant so much to them through the years. Early in convention, Frances Yancey Smith announced the election of Shirley Kreasan Strout to honorary membership in the Founders' group, in recognition of her contribution and work, and her close association with them.

Roundtables included the scholarship panel for college members conducted by the National Scholarship Chairman, Helen Reich, and Edith Thompson's "Zeta Tau Alpha Post-Graduate Course in Fraternity" for alumnæ. Virginia Wartman's<sup>84</sup> afternoon rushing roundtable was followed by another after the rushing dinner, both college and alumnæ members attending. Tuesday morning was devoted to these discussion groups. At the separate roundtables for alum-



næ and college members (in charge of the two Vice-Presidents), the latter discussed pledge training and committee chairmen. At ten o'clock the sections combined for a roundtable on Publicity and Public Relations, conducted by Shirley Strout, assisted by Helen Reich and Ann Rees (Gorman). Edith Thompson presided. The standards roundtable was led by Wanda Garver and Ruth Brooker, while Lavone Dooley had charge of the corporation roundtable.

## *The Historical Exhibit*

*"All civilization is 90% heirlooms and memories"*

R. I. GANNON



BETA CHAPTER'S CHARTER, which was signed by Bruce Houston Davis, is clearly visible here. The white lace, sequin-sprinkled fan, mounted and framed, was carried by Alice Coleman. The black satin dancing slippers, and heavy, black silk hose, belonged to Ethel Coleman. The framed clipping is the obituary of Maud Jones Horner. The Bible was used at Ruby Leigh Orgain's wedding. The coat of arms was the first that Zeta had. The young man in the picture at the right is the Honorable Frank Moon, who piloted the bill through the legislature that chartered ZTA. To the left is the framed (reversible) copy of the first issue of *Themis*. Some of the gold jewelry Helen Crafford wore about the time she graduated, including her original badge, is shown at the left rear, mounted on black velvet.



THE TREASURED MINIATURE (in the folding velvet case) of Bruce Houston Davis in her wedding dress was loaned by Mr. W. E. Davis, whose picture is on the left of another picture of his wife. Seated (wearing a beplumed hat), the picture was taken when she became ZTA's President. Her souvenir stickpins from early conventions are seen mounted on white velvet. The long, black velvet panel contains the badges through the years, including the early official stick pin.



THE FOUNDERS during their preview of the Historical Exhibit. Said *Themis*: "Della Hundley and Ruby Orgain are looking at Zeta's second constitution. The 1896 edition of *The Youth's Companion*, which her roommate, Fannie Smith, contributed, is of special interest to Cammie Jones Batte. That was a popular magazine of the day."





IDENTIFIABLE OBJECTS in this picture include a framed display (the tall frame facing outward) of the original colors (still lovely and unfaded), and the original seals found in Maud Jones Horner's effects after her death. The letter (on stationery bearing the American flag) was written by Maud Jones to her sisters in ????. On the left the tall frame is another "thank you" letter sent by Cammie Jones to her ??? sisters. At the left of Cammie's letter is a picture of Maud Jones. She has a high feather on her hat, and she is wearing her ZTA badge on her collar—as was the custom of the day. Further left, in front, is the classic "mystifying" picture. Back of it, to the left, is the original vignette in water colors. Early copies of *The Normal Light* (in which ZTA appeared for the first time) and a 1900 *Virginian* are in the front, center, and to the right. Ruby Leigh's treasured memory book is at right center.

Progressing to a newer form of news dissemination, a daily luncheon newscast kept everyone abreast of events, individuals present and bits about them, to say nothing of innumerable announcements. "Newscasts were delivered in the main dining-room or at the Beach Club, as the occasion demanded," wrote Ann Rees Gorman, assistant to the convention publicity director. "They were informal and flexible . . . we were highly adaptable to all situations and emergencies." An ambitious publicity program<sup>85</sup> was also successfully carried out, both before and during convention.

After the delegates<sup>86</sup> arrival on Friday morning,<sup>87</sup> June 25, the opening social function was the Welcome Luncheon, sponsored by the Tidewater, Virginia Alumnæ. The president, Dorothy Rankin (Seiler), Alpha Omicron, welcomed the assemblage. "Fragrant gardenias, which were to be almost the official convention flower, made their initial appearance in the table decorations."

After the greetings and the skit, "I Remember Mammy in 1898, 1918, and 1948,"<sup>88</sup> which featured Beta province's Plantation Dinner that night, there were "a truly southern chicken dinner, southern songs, recognition of Repeaters, announcements, then run like mad to the door to collect the dolls<sup>89</sup> that



were being carried away for souvenirs," the province president wrote. Helen Harrison and Shirley Strout again tied for the number of conventions attended.

At Alpha province's reception for National Council which followed, "everyone met everyone else, but especially did everyone meet, or greet again, the Council members." In the receiving line were Mary Stacy Jackson, convention social chairman, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Withrow, Mrs. Seepe, Miss Wartman, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Strout, Mrs. Dooley, Mrs. Roberts, Miss Garver. After the reception the provinces had their own meetings.

"Let knowledge grow from more to more" (from Tennyson's "In Memoriam") was the theme of Saturday's scholarship luncheon at which Frances Berry Carter, president of Theta province, presided. One long table in front of the speakers' table was reserved for members of Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Lambda Delta and Mortar Board. Insignia of the three organizations represented decorated the speakers' table and the special table. Placards naming various college subjects were on the other tables. Outstanding was the speech on "Scholarship," given by Helen Reich, assistant dean of students at Iowa State University, who introduced each honor student at the special table. "Scholarship," "Let Knowledge Grow," and "Virginia Beach, 1948" were the titles on the three stacked books (in replica size) that were given as favors.

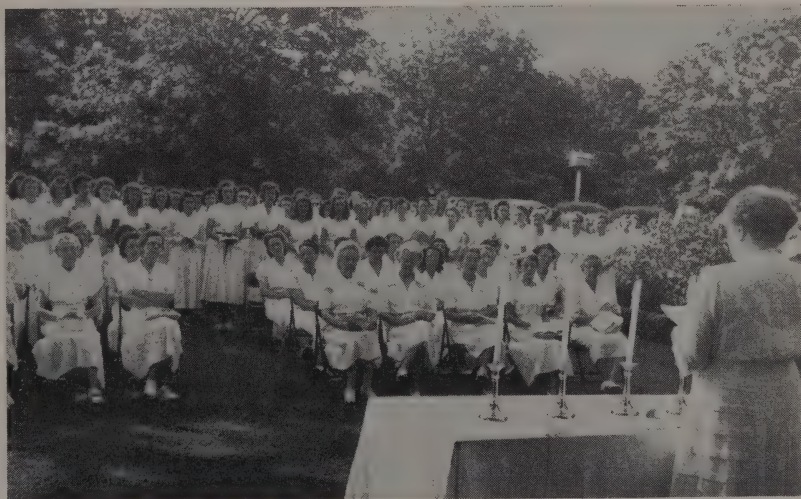
A large and lively cast made Epsilon province's elaborately staged Academy Award Dinner highly entertaining. Following the Hollywood pattern, oscars were presented by Joan Meisner, Tau, the toastmistress (introduced by the province president), after skits spotlighted some of Zeta's most prominent members. After awarding oscars for music, business, literary and radio achievement, "the most coveted oscar for the outstanding sorority of the year—and every year—Zeta Tau Alpha," was presented to the National President. Decorations<sup>90</sup> included a large gold Zeta Tau Alpha over the speakers' table. The "foot-and-a-half" gold oscars that ranged along the table were the awards presented. White and gold wrapped favors that bore tiny gold oscars proved to be glass paper weights with the coat-of-arms mounted underneath.

The beauty of White Day was never more poignant than on that sun-bathed Sunday morning in June when white-clad Zetas formed a procession<sup>91</sup> that quietly moved to the gardenia-studded gardens of the hotel. In this still, green sanctuary the memorial service was conducted by Ethel Charnock, Wellsburg Alumnæ, while hymns were sung softly by the convention choir.<sup>92</sup> White carnations were placed on the altar for 102 Zetas "as the fraternity said farewell to those members forever gone from among us." Used for the first time were the white memorial service books, the gift of the Wellsburg Alumnæ chapter,<sup>93</sup> in charge that morning. "No one who witnessed that ceremony left without having been deeply moved, and yet strangely calmed by its beauty and solemnity," wrote Wanda Garver, who had charge of convention's ritualistic services.

Following Iota province's candlelight breakfast, the pledge and Big-Sister services were beautifully given by Omicron<sup>94</sup> chapter's officers. When Phi<sup>95</sup> conducted an impressive, letter-perfect model initiation for Marilyn Kimball,<sup>96</sup> Beta Delta, that afternoon, it was the first time that a college chapter had been given this honor, and the initiate who was chosen was signally honored. Previously—for almost half a century—national officers had given this traditional model initiation. Then, for the first time the "new ritual service"<sup>97</sup> was given at a convention." It was thoroughly discussed at the ritual roundtable<sup>98</sup> which followed.



LEAVING THE MEMORIAL SERVICE. Leading the procession are Ruby Leigh Orgain and Frances Yancey Smith, followed by Della Lewis Hundley; then Mary Power Farthing, Alpha, and Ethel Coleman Van Name; Helen Crafford and Helen Harrison; Lavone Dooley and Mary Jones Batte, with the others following.



THE START of the Sunday Memorial Service. In the front row are the Founders. National Council members are in the second row, with past national officers and province presidents in the third. Ethel Charnock, Theta, is conducting.



By the end of the day five services had been superbly given and several Founders had seen some of the present-day ceremonies for the first time. (There was only one in 1898.)

Gamma province, with Nina Sherman presiding, had charge of the standards luncheon that day. With groups directed to "use any plan suitable for a special event," themes varied. Alpha Rho's ship, symbolizing a fifty-year voyage, decorated the speakers' table. The music featured songs written by Gamma province chapters.

Next came the exodus to the sunken gardens, where three expert photographers waited to take the official convention picture and many other group pictures—in half an hour. The hot Virginia sun beat down unmercifully. With the Founders and officers in the front row, the historic pictures were soon taken. Then swift-moving photographers dashed from one "prepared group" to another—all seeking shaded locations. "Never," reflected *Themis*, "were so many pictures<sup>99</sup> taken in so short a time of so many people in so many groups. But in a few hours, the proofs appeared on the display boards."

Richmond Alumnæ were tea hostesses later that afternoon.

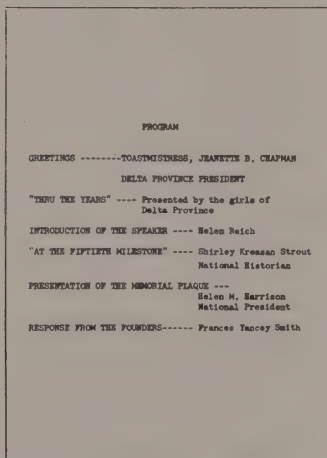
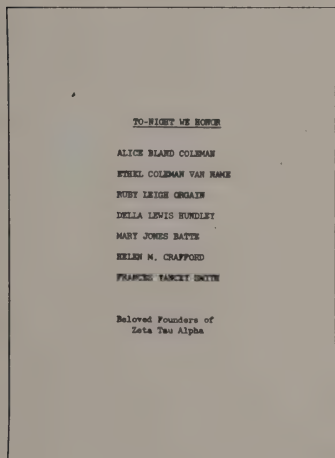
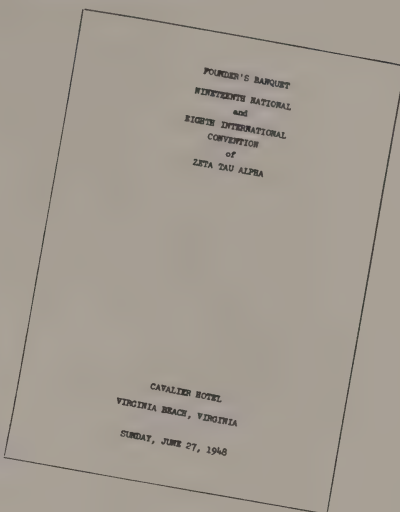
With evening came the change to white evening gowns and the unforgettable Founders' Banquet. "And, in their white evening gowns and orchids, none looked lovelier than the glowing seven first ladies themselves, as they sat at the speakers' table and looked over a sea of white loveliness—their progeny."

Their presence was a milestone in itself. For the first time in fifty years these gracious women sat together at a convention banquet and marveled at what they had wrought, for at no time since Zeta's founding had they attended a conclave together. Nor had the Zetas at any other meeting enjoyed the rare privilege and inspiration of having their Founders with them. Inevitably, the evening was destined to be enshrined in Zeta hearts for all time—an evening touched with the stardust of dreams that would merge into the infinitude of the past in a pattern never to be duplicated. Founders and fraternity alike were standing on the threshold of an unrepeatable experience. And, with a sense of mingled enchantment and unreality, they felt it.

With the Founders at the speakers' table that historic evening were the National President, Helen M. Harrison; the speaker, Shirley Kreasan Strout; Helen Reich, Alpha Alpha–Alpha Omicron, who introduced the speaker; Mary Stacy Dodge Jackson, social chairman of convention, and Jeanette Bertram Chapman, who, as president of Delta province, was the banquet chairman and toastmistress.

Sparkling sequin hatpins were tucked in big blue tarlatan bows on top of silver hatbox centerpieces. A large garden hat tied with blue ribbon and filled with blue delphinium centered the speakers' table. In a gown of blue and silver,





and a hat plumed in silver, the modish lady on the attractive programs was costumed in the high style of the late nineties.

"Delta province felt honored to have this banquet as its assignment," the province president wrote, "but with the honor went the responsibility of presenting something appropriate and in keeping with the graciousness of the ladies being honored. . . . The province had, for the third time, been asked to present its hat parade, but the dignity of the occasion demanded more than just a hat parade. So, after much reading of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha*, and research in the library, a presentation of hats and costumes that might have traveled with the Zetas to their conventions from 1898 to 1948 was decided upon."

The skit preceding the speaking program began "to the accompaniment of music appropriate to the year depicted." Delta province Zetas modeled the styles worn during the past half-century. Said Themis:

There were night gowns which the ??? girls might have worn, there were taffetas and bonnets, shirt-waists and skirts with sailors, dusters with big floppy Panamas, white embroidered dresses with beaver hats and willow plumes, georgette dresses with deep-crowned picture hats, roller Panamas and felts with knickers and middies, cloth bathing-suits with frilled caps. Then there were cloche hats worn with the knee-length slinky dresses of the twenties, the Empress Eugenie tricorn worn with the wrap-around dress, the redingote with the crownless hat, the polo coat and sports hat, and the furlough wedding dress and hat of the forties.

While the mannequins paraded, memories were refreshed as outstanding events of those days were narrated. Roxine Petzold sang "The Hat Parade" and the mannequins joined in the chorus as they left the room.

Diversionary and delightful, that part of the program was over.

There was an expectant hush as Helen Reich rose to introduce the speaker. In a gracious introduction she said, in part,

Tonight we are gathered for a very special occasion and no one is better qualified to do the honors than our Editor-Historian. She, more than any other Zeta, carries in her mind a wealth of interesting facts and information pertinent to the development of our fraternity. She has had the arduous and exacting, but often pleasant, task of assembling our *History*. To commemorate our fiftieth milestone, an exciting event—we are assembled to pay homage to our Founders and to rededicate our loyalty to our fraternity. We are fortunate to have one so well prepared to bring us a special message for the occasion.

The National Historian's speech<sup>100</sup> became a magic carpet that transported the listeners back to 1898 and then down through the years, but in a different manner. Nine very young girls were again just nine very young girls, as word sketches and bits from the nearly forgotten past brought each Founder vividly into focus, in a purely personal 1898 picture from which each emerged as she was then—a typical Virginia college girl, interested in clothes, beaux, parties, et cetera. Delightfully, their past rose up to meet them, as it were. The thrilled and starry-eyed Founders, eagerly drinking in every word, were not sure what was coming next. The audience was delighted. Then, with highlights sparkling along the way, the inspiring story unfolded of a great fraternity as it progressed toward the half-century mark. Said one reviewer: "The introductions were done in a charming, wholly different manner, and the development of the theme left us all stirred beyond words."<sup>101</sup>

Although Frances Yancey Smith was moved almost beyond the point of expression, her response for the Founders was a beautifully phrased benediction pronounced over a stilled audience. Then exclamations of joy mingled with surprise as the Founders were presented with new (golden anniversary) pearl badges. The gifts held a double significance, for most of them had long since donated their original badges to the Historical Collection.

CONVENTION had a preview of the commemorative plaque when it was unveiled at the Founders' Banquet in a preliminary showing. Here Helen Harrison was telling about it.



Then came a preview of the bronze memorial plaque that was to be dedicated on October 15, at Farmville. The tablet was unveiled by the National President. Announcement was also made of the gift of \$500 to the Jarman Memorial Organ Fund at Longwood College.

Rededication to Zeta Tau Alpha was engraved on every heart as the unforgettable evening came to a close. "Pride of our Hearts" was sung "with a new and deeper feeling than had ever been felt before."

Wanting to preserve the loveliness of the seven first ladies in white, and utilizing a golden opportunity, individual portraits were made of them in their white evening gowns and orchids the next day. Later, the pictures were framed.

In the lounge, after the banquet, the Zetas listened to the hotel's Sunday evening concert, more pictures were taken and the Founders were kept busy autographing banquet programs. White Day, which reached a peak of loveliness at this anniversary convention, was over.

"Monday morning was set aside for consideration of service activities," wrote Anne Winnes (Redmond), national service chairman. "Since our efforts for the past several months have been concentrated on aid to the cerebral palsied, the principal speaker was the director of the cerebral palsy division of the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Miss Jane Shover." At Eta province's service luncheon which followed, the WTAR broadcast<sup>102</sup> made earlier by the President, Alumnæ Director and Editor-Historian, was played back. Chapter recordings of Zeta songs were also heard. Dolls, decorated to represent Themis, holding in their outstretched arms samples of therapeutic equipment, decorated the speakers' table. Favors were corsages of Easter lilies, the symbol of the Society's Easter Seal sale. A marionette show, "The Wishing Well," told of the appreciation of the handicapped.

Everything from blue jeans to spectator sports appeared at Zeta province's



gay outdoor party at the Cavalier Yacht and Country Club. In the club house a receiving line was headed by the province president. Outside, rows of tables stood ready. Platters piled high with delicious food (including Smithfield ham) speedily disappeared. Before darkness fell "the skit, 'Stars A-Poppin', played before a massed, appreciative crowd. Then Iota province presented its colorful Calendar Girl Parade.<sup>103</sup> Both skits were enormous hits." The singing that night



THE FOUNDERS AND NATIONAL COUNCIL

was lusty, then haunting. The Founders joined in with zest. "And," reflected *Themis*, "lots of mosquitoes bit lots of Zetas." Favors were turquoise blue pencils, imprinted with the words, Zeta Tau Alpha.

For the final festive luncheon the scene shifted to the Cavalier Beach Club—a perfect background for Lambda and Kappa provinces' Davey Jones's Locker Luncheon. To the tune of "Sailor's Hornpipe," Founders, Council, and others were danced to their places by pirates. "It was quite a sight," *Themis* observed. "The spirit was marvelous." There was ample room for the U-shaped head table for thirty-five, a stage and a winding aisle for the parading 1898 bathing beauties. Out of the chest which decorated that table—a replica of Davey's locker<sup>104</sup>—spilled bright-colored jewels and doubloons. Doubloon favors were gold-colored metallic discs upon which was embossed: *Zeta Tau Alpha. Golden Anniversary Convention—1948*. When the Kappa province president opened the program with a resounding "All Ashore That's Going Ashore," eight pirates marched staunchly to the stage. Then twenty bathing beauties of 1898 paraded in fabulous costumes before an appreciative audience. Adeline Scan-

drett, Upsilon, was the fashion commentator. History repeated itself when departing guests received oranges, with the invitation "to come out west."

But everything led up to the final night and the symphony in gold that was the golden anniversary banquet. Gold was everywhere. Gold streamers radiated from the lighting fixtures in the dining-room. Golden candles, cups and bells made of cardboard decorated the walls. Golden letters of "ZTA," "Golden Anniversary," "Golden," and "50," added their Midas touch to the tables.

Members of National Council, Sarah Alexander, president of Alpha province; Hermena Wait, Delta, program speaker, and the toastmistress, Mary Stacy Jackson, in charge of the banquet, were seated at the speakers' table, which was beautifully decorated with flowers and decorations of gold. Glistening gold programs were printed in blue. Favors were gold miniature wine coolers.

The words "Zeta Tau Alpha Golden Anniversary" were swirled in blue on the four-tiered birthday cake that symbolized the half-century mark. Yellow rosebuds were clustered on the white icing. The decorative top piece was a golden "50." The National President cut the cake and everyone received a slice. It was the gift of Alpha province, hostess for that evening.

After Shirley Strout introduced the past national officers<sup>105</sup> present—and told interesting facts about them—Hermena Wait spoke on "World-Minded Zetas." Lucile Roberts' subject was "Golden Heritage." Then the long-awaited awards were announced. Like everything at this convention, there was a dazzling array of them.

Inez Sullivan (McClintock), Alpha Sigma, the national organization's representative for Beta Pi's re-establishment, was the alumna recipient of the Louise Kettler Helper Memorial Award. Hermena Wait, Delta, was the college member recipient.

The coveted Achievement Award was won by Alpha Rho, while runner-up plaques went to Beta Theta and Alpha Nu chapters. Upsilon and Alpha Phi received honorable mention.

Three "graceful, glowing, golden" trophies were awarded for the first time:



THE PRESIDENT cut the first slice of the birthday cake.

the Golden Anniversary Scholarship Cup (won by Beta Epsilon), the Standards Award (won by Beta Iota), and the Merit Award (won by Alpha Tau). Scholarship plaques for top-ranking place on their campuses went to Beta Epsilon and Beta Omega.<sup>106</sup>

Said *Themis*, "convention was pretty breathless after all these presentations." Excitement mounted as "honors and more honors" were bestowed. The photographer snapped pictures. Then it was all over—

"But it wasn't quite all over. In a surprise presentation, a silver anniversary of service and contribution to Zeta Tau Alpha was recognized and honored when a silver tea and coffee service was presented to Shirley Kreasan Strout. In making the presentation, the National President, expressing the appreciation of the fraternity, stressed the value of Mrs. Strout's continuity in office to the progress of Zeta Tau Alpha and her place as 'an outstanding figure in the Greek-letter world.'" The departing photographer was called back. A hush fell as the honoree responded.

This time it *was* over. With the singing of "Pride of Our Hearts," Zeta Tau Alpha's golden anniversary slipped shimmeringly into history, but its record was written in gold in the hearts of those who were there. And none treasured more golden memories than the Founders who stepped out of the pages of *The History* to become gracious personages in their own right to the many who met them for the first time. Enchanted days, glorious beyond anything they had dreamed of, theirs were forever-memories carried lovingly the rest of their lives. "They are beloved," said *Themis*, "not only for what they *did*, but for what they *are*."

One other major anniversary event lay ahead—the October fifteenth observance at Farmville. The festive year was not quite gone, but the concluding convention<sup>107</sup> of the fifth decade had added the fraternity's most brilliant conclave chapter.

### Supplementary Notes

1. Province presidents in attendance were Audrey Johnson (Cushman), Alpha; Grace Bennett (Chandler), Beta; Tryphena Chase (Harrison), Iota; Helen M. Harrison, Lambda; Eileen Barnett (Kasser), Theta; Norvell Kanning (Jezard), Eta; Ruth Hileman (Stoldt), Kappa; Ethel Cruse (Mouton), Zeta; Doris Murray (Richmond), Gamma; Lucile Shoulty (Tomey), Epsilon; Vere Moyer (Zeman), Delta. In its White Violets column, *The Chain* made special mention of Vere Moyer (Zeman), Alpha Omega, "who, at a late date, stepped into the big job of being Delta province's hostess to the 1939 convention," handling "a million jobs with skill, minute detail and complete amiability."

2. Elizabeth Steinhauer (Ott) retired after six years in office.

3. Wrote Dorothy Gibbons (Gross): So "that posterity may ever recall *The Chain's* 1939 cruise, she fondly submits her ship's log: Sailing between two islands, *The Chain* produced four sparkling, up-to-the-minute issues; recorded more birthdays than any predecessor; continued the lovely White Violet column; introduced Zeta Zit Zats [columned by Helen Brown (Keithly)] to replace *Zeta Quips*; so intrigued Helen Pitkin Scherz, of New Orleans,



that she wrote her column for an Indianapolis paper side by side with *The Chain* reporters; printed a poem by a hotel guest written especially for the paper and recorded anything and everybody that made convention one of the finest."

4. In this list were the names of Evelyn Callicut, Lambda, a former National Inspector, and Mary Anderson (Lady Mary) Coleman, Alpha, younger sister of Alice and Ethel Coleman.

5. They were assisted by Edith Thompson, Beta Rho, and Frances Fisher, Memphis Alumnae.

6. Said *Themis*: "Shirley Krieg and Doris Murray [whose birthday was also on that day] should certainly feel their birthdays well celebrated."

7. Martha Morrison (McLaughlin), Alpha Kappa; Ella Waters (Pfau), Phi; and Shirley Baird (Rawlinson), Beta Iota. Marion Mayer Bergin was the new National Rushing Chairman.

8. The outstanding May, 1940, *Themis*, with its beautiful folio of houses and other features, set a new pace and high standard that grew as the years went by, and the issue became increasingly important.

9. Written by the Editor-Historian.

10. Barbara Hull, who served only briefly, was one of the passengers rescued after the British liner, the *Athenian*, was sunk in the Atlantic on September 3, presumably by a German submarine.

11. Rapidly moving events and rapidly changing addresses of service personnel determined the fate of this project, which was short-lived.

12. The property, the present Alpha Omicron house, was later purchased.

13. Conditions brought about the withdrawal of Beta Upsilon's charter soon after, until such time as reactivation was warranted. Beta Mu had been inactivated in 1939.

14. Since the possibility of having a fraternity attorney was recorded at the previous Grand Chapter meeting, one had been retained.

15. Later in this decade the number became known as the summer issue, with the more practical dates of June-July. This permitted inclusion of more honors and late news than the former May issue's deadline made possible.

16. The number of women students not being adequate, Alpha Alpha became inactive some months after this, but was reactivated in 1946.

17. Province presidents present were: Florence McLeod (Strickler), Alpha; Grace Bennett (Chandler), Beta; Doris Murray (Richmond), Gamma; Olive Taylor (Brumbaugh), Delta; Mary Fick (Hall), Epsilon; Julien Devereux (Weeks), Zeta; Norvall Kanning (Jezzard), Eta; Edith Thompson, Theta; Treva Mae Allen (Seepe), Iota; Dorothy Smith (Devlin), Lambda.

18. Again, reflective of the 1940 Grand Chapter meeting, Epsilon chapter was selected, and became the national project that fall. Much work and energy was expended on it. Not considered successful, however, the project died a natural death. By request, it was never publicized in *Themis*.

19. Ella Waters (Pfau), Field Secretary, was chairman, assisted by the other two Field Secretaries, Margarethe Faulstich Livesay and Dorothy Gibbons Gross.

20. Wednesday night's program was under the direction of Ella Waters Pfau.

21. Her mother and aunt were charter members of Lambda.

22. Zeta's equivalent of saying "Orchids To You." The term was coined when the 1935 convention *Chain* announced the column, "White Violets To—."

23. Formerly listed as director of chaperones, the next issue of *Themis* (January, 1942), carried this new title for the first time.

24. This policy made *The Link* the medium for transmitting the proclamation to the chapters in time for Founders' Day, October 15. *Themis* continued to give it to the whole fraternity.

25. When the last reprint was made, not all copies were bound at that time. The unbound reserve was referred to here.

26. A few years later one of these chapters had risen to a top position in the fraternity in chapter strength, finances, house, et cetera, while three others enjoyed a good position.

27. Action of the 1943 National Council meeting was to change this.

28. Always a sharp difference of opinion on this, it never came to the convention floor in the fifth decade.

29. Beatrice Clephane and Mary Kammerer (Brecht). Dorothy Swaney (Hillix) was unable to be present.

30. Because of the nature of the meeting, the term "discussion" supplanted the usual designation of "minutes," the latter term being considered inapplicable here.

31. A design was drawn, but in the war exigencies that lay ahead, no final steps were taken to issue a redesigned badge. Also, since convention sanction is necessary for all changes or additions to the official insignia (badge, pledge pin, recognition pin, et cetera), the securing of convention's approval of the new design would have been mandatory.

32. Reinstated in 1945.

33. Reinstated in 1946.

34. The retiring officer, Ella Waters Pfau, "who traveled over this country the past four years as Field Secretary," became a member of the Finance Committee, then was announced in the May, 1944 issue of *Themis* as the new Membership Director. She did not, however, continue in that office. Later in the meeting Helen Harrison and Beatrice Clephane made a business trip to Ann Arbor, Michigan, in the interest of Alpha Gamma.

35. This was not carried out.

36. Convention authorization of any change in design was necessary (see note 31). However, no recommendation was made to the 1946 or 1948 conventions, the last two in this decade.

37. This, however, did not prove final. Sentiment grew to have *The History* written by decades, inclusive of, and carrying through the golden anniversary year, namely: 1898-1908; 1908-1918; 1918-1928; 1928-1938; 1938-1948. With each decade covered by a complete history of that particular ten-year span (and reflective of it), the volume was to include the comprehensive fifty-year record as decade followed decade, and unfolded the fifty-year Zeta story. Although urged and discussed before that date, this, the final form of the new *History*, was presented and approved by the pre-1946 convention National Council meeting.

38. "That some method be considered whereby the official delegate of an alumnae chapter to national convention might have her transportation assured, so that it would provide representation for all alumnae chapters at convention."

39. That plan was not carried out.

40. Two changes were made soon after this. The October *Themis* announced the appointment of Virginia Wartman, Alpha Rho, as Membership Director, and of Helen Winton (Jenkins), Beta Theta, as Acting Secretary-Treasurer, following the resignation of the former incumbent.

41. The personnel of this committee meeting at this time, and which also met later with National Council, was Beatrice Clephane, Beta Alpha, chairman; Dorothy Swaney Hillix, Theta; Doris Murray Richmond, Alpha Rho.

42. Before fall this enthusiastically received . . . well launched and thriving project "enjoyed the generous participation and support of Geraldine Townsend Fitch . . . [and] the selection of Ginling College as the college at which the awards will be made, promotion, publicity, planning for Mrs. Fitch's contacts and other details were worked out and put into operation with rapidity and coordination."

43. Temporarily quiescent at this time, re-establishment of Epsilon chapter "in the near future" was planned. In the meantime, discussion centered on the chapter's owned house.

44. When Mary Brecht left the office in November, 1944, Helen Winton Jenkins, Beta Theta (who had joined the headquarters staff in September, 1944, as a Central Office assistant), became Acting Secretary-Treasurer until the appointment of Mildred McFall, Kappa, in the fall of 1945. Serving as Secretary-Treasurer from October, she resigned later in the year. Soon after, early in 1946, Mrs. Jenkins was appointed to that office. The September, 1945 issue of *The Link* announced "Mildred McFall, Kappa, as Secretary-Treasurer and executive officer in charge of Central Office, with Helen Winton Jenkins, as assistant Secretary-Treasurer." The same issue said, "Executive Council wishes to call to your attention the fact that no Field Secretary appointment has been made for 1945-1946. We will be happy to receive any recommendations and applications."

45. Lois Faulstich (Hays), Chapter Counselor, was present for this survey.

46. These were: 1) Members initiated prior to 1923, 2) Members initiated after 1923 who automatically became life subscribers to *Themis*, 3) Life subscribers to *Themis* who had also paid life dues, 4) Members who paid annual dues but did not receive *Themis*, and 5) those who paid annual dues and did receive *Themis*.

47. A) The purchasable membership certificate signifying initiation, and initiation only, but often confused with b) the life membership card issued to those paying the \$50 life membership dues, c) annual dues card.

48. A convention initiate is assigned to the chapter recommending her.

49. Included in the issues were features on the reactivation of Alpha Psi and Beta Lambda chapters in 1945.

50. Conditions made this impossible that year for such a work as *The History*, and for some time to come.

51. Following adoption of the policy of sending a letter to the parents of pledges immediately after pledging.

52. The response was gratifying and hundreds of "lost Zetas" were thus found again.

53. Margarethe Faulstich Livesay, Standards Chairman, attended the meeting at which this program was discussed.

54. For those who like statistics: There were 10 members of National Council; 10 province presidents; 6 standing committee members; 101 official and alternate college delegates; 39 official and alternate alumnæ delegates; 34 alumnæ visitors attending convention full time; while 49 alumnæ visitors, 6 college chapter visitors, 2 alumnæ chapter delegates, 2 pledges and 7 guests attended part time. Attending throughout convention were 156 college members and pledges, and 150 alumnæ members.

55. The reports of the following past officers were made a part of the record without being read: Mary Kammerer Brecht, Secretary-Treasurer from July 1, 1943, to November 30, 1944; Dorothy Gibbons Gross, Ella Waters Pfau and Margarethe Faulstich Livesay, former Field Secretaries. Also filed without reading were the reports of the province presidents. However, committee reports were read.

56. When the fee plan (as it was originally called) was adopted, a fifteen-minute recess was declared to start enrolling charter members in the Golden Anniversary Club, composed of those who joined before the 1948 conclave. A total of \$1,235 (representing seventy-four fully paid memberships and six partly paid ones) was announced by the end of convention.

57. Deleted were the Themis Current Fund, the Philanthropic Current Fund and the Convention Fund, which were brought under the General Fund. The Coorganizer Fund was brought under the Scholarship Fund, while the name of the Philanthropic Endowment Fund was changed to Service Endowment Fund.



58. Harold Hill Helper was killed in a train wreck less than a year after the death of his wife, and before he had completed arrangements for the memorial fund he was endowing in her memory. Following his death the members of the Helper family graciously carried out his original plan and wishes.

59. Until the 1933 convention, the fund was carried as one of the official funds, but at that time it was given over entirely to Dr. Hopkins and was no longer included in the fraternity's listings.

60. Reviewing this happy state of affairs, *Themis* particularized:

"In June, 1946, there were only 1,518 non-life subscribers to *Themis* out of an approximate total membership of some 21,000. . . . In other words, 92.5% of Zeta Tau Alpha's total membership held *Themis* life subscriptions then . . . a laudable record, indeed.

"The story of this development is interesting. From 1910 to 1923, there were 1,860 initiates. In July, 1923, the magazine's circulation (including copies sent to exchanges) totalled around 1,800. At the 1923 convention, the *Themis* Life Subscription Plan, and the creation of a *Themis* Endowment Fund accruing under the terms of that plan was officially adopted—thus assuring every initiate thereafter a life subscription to the magazine. The cost of life subscriptions for both alumnæ and future initiates proudly announced in the fall issue of *Themis* that year, was set by convention at \$10, a sum then consistent with the times and the size of the fraternity—a sum that was unchanged twenty-three years later, despite greatly changed economic conditions and a membership of 21,000 as against 1923's circulation of 1,800.

61. The Historical Exhibit could not be shown at this convention because room facilities were unavailable at the hotel. And because the nearby printing establishment burned a few months previously, no *Chain* could be published.

62. When it was learned that the Greenbrier's reopening (following its complete renovation and redecoration after government use during the war) would be delayed well into 1948, another location was selected later.

63. Past national officer Helen Kagay Prophet, Alpha Gamma, again served as assistant convention business manager, while Jessamine Emig (Seulberger), Alpha Eta, was the social chairman.

64. Recommended by the San Antonio Alumnæ, Mrs. Davenport, a former Kappa chapter pledge, was assigned to that chapter upon initiation.

65. Marion Palin was in charge of the services. No Ritual Committee member could be present.

66. Later shipped direct to Minnesota from the jeweler who repaired damages previously sustained.

67. Before his untimely death in July, 1944, Harold Helper expressed the wish that Mrs. Roberts be the recipient of the alumnæ award, for it was she "who carried on so ably during Louise Helper's illness from June to October, 1943, assuming two Council offices at the same time." Ordinarily, Council officers are not considered eligible for this award.

68. *Themis'* summation of the awarding of this honorary title said:

"Dr. Hopkins became Secretary of Zeta Tau Alpha in the early days at the fourth convention, serving from 1906-1908. Succeeding Bruce Houston Davis as president in 1908, she acted in that capacity until 1920, excluding a period previous to that date when she was out of the country in war service in World War I and Fanny Hunter Taylor was Acting President. Reelected at the 1919 Chicago meeting, soon after her return from France, Dr. Hopkins resigned the following year.

"Prior to the 1908 convention, work had been done toward qualifying ZTA for admittance into N.P.C., and at that convention, Mrs. Davis, the retiring President, announced the fulfillment of one of her principal aims for Zeta—its acceptance by that body, which meant that

Zeta Tau Alpha had become a national fraternity. It was indeed a fitting climax to the work and achievements of Zeta's important and far-seeing second President, and an auspicious beginning for the third. When N.P.C. met the following fall, Dr. Hopkins, as the new President, represented ZTA, serving continuously in that capacity until the conclusion of the 1926 convention. By rotation, ZTA held the chairmanship from 1923-1926, with the 1926 meeting being held in Dallas, Texas, the home city of Dr. Hopkins, then the chairman.

"Dr. Hopkins retired from the presidency of ZTA in 1920 and from N.P.C. work in the fall of 1926, but was called back by Zeta's Executive Council in the fall of 1943, being selected by them to act again as the Zeta Tau Alpha Panhellenic Delegate, attending the 1943 and 1945 conferences. . . ."

69. Mrs. Roberts replaced Dr. Hopkins who resigned as N.P.C. Delegate soon after the 1946 convention. Mrs. Roberts relinquished the extension chairmanship in the summer of 1947.

70. Patricia Sparling (Benn), Field Secretary, and Wanda Garver, Chapter Counselor, were present for this review. There was also a special conference with a house corporation officer.

71. Given by Doris Murray Richmond, a member of the Finance Committee.

72. This was the nineteenth national and eighth international convention.

73. Other early members present throughout convention were Mary Power Farthing and Jessie Whitmore Booker (both initiated in 1899). Clair Woodruff Bugg (initiated in 1904), former National Secretary, attended part of the time. Other early members dropped in for shorter periods, . . .

74. The figures were: 7 Founders, 10 members of National Council, 11 province presidents, 7 standing committee members, 2 Chapter Counselors, 104 official and alternate college delegates, 47 college chapter visitors, 40 official and alternate alumnae delegates, 96 alumnae visitors, 3 pledges, 16 guests, 7 members of Alpha chapter—total 350.

75. Appointed to fill the unexpired term of Marion Palin, who resigned in 1947, soon after that year's Council meeting.

76. By 1948 the National President was listed as Extension Chairman, that flexible post having been transferred in 1947 from its recent combination with the office of N.P.C. Delegate.

77. Alpha—Sarah Cole (Alexander); Beta—Jeannette Spann; Gamma—Nina Henry (Sherman); Delta—Jeanette Bertram (Chapman); Epsilon—Genevieve Gragg (Gardner); Zeta—Margaret Miller (Jacoby); Eta—Dorothy McCue (Nicholson); Theta—Frances Berry (Carter); Kappa—Margaret Sullivan (Devers); Lambda—Winifred Glynn (Todd). Said *Themis*, "several will be recognized as new appointees, who took office just prior to convention," in accordance with the ruling that province officer appointments be made just before national convention.

78. New chapters welcomed for the first time were Gamma Eta and Gamma Theta, while reactivated Alpha Alpha and Alpha Theta were also represented.

79. Sending greetings and congratulations were: Pi Beta Phi, Kappa Delta, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Kappa Alpha Theta, Delta Gamma, Delta Delta Delta, Phi Mu, Alpha Xi Delta, Delta Zeta, Alpha Phi, Alpha Delta Pi, Sigma Sigma Sigma, Beta Sigma Omicron, Pi Kappa Sigma, Josephine Goodwin Parsons (Alpha), Dr. May Agness Hopkins, Mary Poggi Richley, Fanny Hunter Taylor, Catharine Binger Beverley, Dorothy Swaney Hillix, Dorothy Gibbons Gross, Grace Ryan Raub, Catherine Carson Taylor, May Youngberg, Margaret Williams, Elizabeth and Franklin Steinko.

80. Barbara McGreal, Xi's president, and Mildred Snowden Smith (who trained Helen Harrison as a pledge) made the presentation.

81. In Article IV, Section 4 (page 33) of the constitution and by-laws, the words "Golden Anniversary" supplanted the word "Contingent."

82. Mary Kammerer Brecht, Chi, had been the chairman since 1946.

83. The Service Endowment Fund was to be invested as follows: 1) One-half in United States government bonds, 2) A portion in first mortgages on fraternity property, 3) A portion in campus-located fraternity property assured by college or university sales agreement.

84. Assisted by Ruth Brooker, Alpha Rho.

85. "Convention news coverage and publicity covered a multitude of aspects," Ann Rees Gorman wrote in *Themis*. "There were daily newscasts, pictures, stories in papers around Virginia Beach, pictures and items sent to hometown papers; and always, an eye ahead to gathering news for *Themis*. An important aspect of publicity was sending pictures of various groups to papers throughout the country. In addition, articles and news-stories were serviced to a number of papers. The complete coverage in the Norfolk *Virginia-Pilot* and *Ledger-Dispatch*, the Richmond *Times-Dispatch* and the Richmond *News-Leader* included pictures of National Council members before and during convention, the Founders and various Virginia alumnae groups. Thus, pictures played a large part. This work and photography for *Themis* counted up to a mammoth job—capably handled by a local photographer. There was no pause in news gathering, final work on scripts, et cetera, taking place from midnight on, in a special press room." Assisting the publicity director, Shirley Strout, was Ann Rees Gorman, Alpha Kappa, with reporters Deborah Berry, Beta Kappa, and Jane Young, Alpha Xi. The newscast replaced *The Chain* of earlier days, which time had outmoded and extremely high printing costs had made prohibitive.

86. For the third consecutive convention, Helen Kagay Prophet, Alpha Gamma, was assistant business manager.

87. Except on White Day, four o'clock was the hour set for sports and recreation.

88. Written by Margaret Hardwick, Beta Sigma.

89. A colonial plantation house, with southern belles in the yard, and negro plantation figures grouped about the lawn, formed the attractive decorations at the speakers' table. Plantation cotton-picker dolls, sitting or standing on bales, decorated the other tables. Programs were in the shape of cotton bales. Favors were cotton bolls.

90. A decorative spray of fresh flowers in the center of each table was the gift of a former Grand Treasurer, Mary L. Patrick, who, not being able to attend, greeted convention through this floral message. Dinner programs bore a sketch of a theatre marquee with bright lights and large letters announcing "Academy Award Dinner—ZTA." Small billboards underneath were captioned: "Golden Anniversary Convention" and "Virginia Beach—June, 1948."

91. Planned by Ethel Charnock, Theta.

92. Roxine Beard (Petzold) was convention music chairman.

93. This exquisitely conducted service reflected, in perfection of detail and execution, the hours of work which the Wellsburg alumnae devoted to it. They were assigned the service when this oldest active alumnae group (1912) expressed a desire to do something special for the fiftieth birthday. Later they presented the Founders with recognition pins.

94. Mary Ann Candee, Omicron's president, was assisted by the vice-president, Ann Hervey. Shirley Bishoff, Omicron's treasurer, acted as conductress.

95. This was in accordance with the 1947 Council meeting decision to have model initiation conducted by college members instead of national officers. Marilyn Stivers, Phi's president, was assisted by Joan Sawyer, Gamma Beta; Jean Pugh, Betty Smith and Caroline Lockhart, Phi; Dorothy Witherspoon, Beta Delta.

96. The initiate was a highly recommended pledge eligible for sophomore year initiation



the next fall under Miami University's rules. Special permission was granted for her initiation at convention.

97. Lois Faulstich (Hays), Alpha Pi, chairman of the Ritual Committee, and Dorothy Gibbons (Gross), Gamma Epsilon, had done a great deal of work on the services since the 1946 convention.

98. In the absence of the ritual chairman, Lucile Roberts presented the recommendations.

99. No convention before ever reached the photographic heights of this historic one. Said the record-making ninety-six-page Golden Anniversary *Themis*: "One look at this issue and no one needs deductive powers to discern that a complete photographic record of the golden anniversary convention was made, and that picture taking started as soon as the officers set foot on Virginia Beach. By the end of convention, over 200 pictures were posted."

100. Prefacing her talk, Mrs. Strout read a telegram she had received from Mr. William Emrys Davis of Lexington, Kentucky, husband of Bruce Houston Davis, Alpha, Second Grand President and the motivating figure in Zeta Tau Alpha's becoming a national organization. Mrs. Davis passed on in 1943. The wire read: "I regret my inability to attend Zeta's Golden Anniversary celebration and I would have you convey to any of Bruce's associates of yester-years who may be in attendance my deep disappointment that I cannot complete my plans to renew acquaintances and discuss early Zeta history with them. I tender my congratulations and hope and expectation that this anniversary celebration will supply the inspiration that will carry your group to still greater heights of usefulness in your chosen field of endeavor." Being a southern coal operator and owner, the threat of a strike called for July 1 made it impossible for him to plan to be away, although, at the last moment, and too late for him to arrive, the strike was called off.

101. "As well as we know Shirley," Jeanette Chapman wrote later, "if not personally, then through her writings and *Themis*, and even with Helen's splendid choice of words, we were unprepared for the outstanding talk which she gave that night." The subject of the speech was "At the Fiftieth Milestone."

102. This record became the property of the fraternity.

103. Delayed arrival of costumes prevented this skit from being given on the rushing program, as originally scheduled.

104. The chest which appeared to be old and well water-logged, was especially made for the party. Fish net, shells, floats, starfish, and marine flora came from Balboa, and Laguna Beach, in California.

105. They were: Rose Nelson Hughes, first National Inspector, 1912-1913; Ethel Char-nock, Grand Treasurer, 1919-1923, and Secretary-Treasurer, 1923-1928; Helen Kagay Prophet, last officer to bear the title of National Inspector, 1933-1935, and first Grand Second Vice-President, 1935-1937; Mildred Snowden Smith, Vice-President, 1930-1933; Jane Carfer Theobald, first Alumnae Director, 1941-1943; Mary Kammerer Brecht, Secretary-Treasurer, 1943-1944.

106. With twenty-seven members present, Wellsburg Alumnae won the alumnae attendance award, while Alpha Phi won for college chapter attendance. Alpha Nu was named for the best rushing party; Delta for the best rushing map. Alpha Phi had the best college exhibit; Alpha Rho had the best rushing exhibit. Alumnae magazine awards went to Portland, Greater Kansas City and Washington, D.C., with Beta Epsilon and Gamma Eta being named for college chapter awards. Theta received the music award for original lyrics, with honorable mention to Alpha Nu. For arrangement, the prize went to Beta Phi. Alpha Phi received honorable mention. Alpha Rho was given the award for original words and music; Xi received honorable mention. Lorraine Haggenjos, Alpha Phi, was named for the best performance. Recreational awards went to Janice Doty, Alpha Alpha—tennis; Elaine Schad,

Alpha Phi—swimming; Sally Grote, Chi—ping-pong; Patricia Flanagan, Alpha Phi—badminton; Marie Moe, Alpha Phi—archery.

107. The next morning two chartered buses and one private car embarked on a post-convention trip to Jamestown and Colonial Williamsburg. They had luncheon at the Williamsburg Inn, then spent the afternoon visiting the restored buildings. After dinner at the Monticello Hotel in Norfolk, the tour went by special Pullman coaches to Washington, D.C. Another day of sight-seeing included luncheon in Alexandria, Virginia. Then on to Mount Vernon. Back at the Sheraton Hotel they donned dinner dresses for dinner at Olney Inn, in Maryland. Frances James, Beta Alpha; Dorothy Culp (Wanner), Chi, and Julia Watkins, Beta Alpha, post-convention tour chairman, acted as hostesses. Later the touring Zetas attended the theatre. Next morning's sight-seeing was climaxed by a luncheon at the Sheraton Hotel, with Elizabeth Orth Steinko, Beta Alpha, and Dorothy Longmire Warlick, Zeta, in charge.

## Decade Development

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### Organization and Government

THE BIENNIAL CONVENTION schedule was followed for four years at the start of this decade, and the 1939 conclave hopefully adopted the never-to-be-carried-out rotation schedule,<sup>1</sup> planned to insure a golden anniversary convention in 1948.

But Germany invaded Poland that fall, Europe flamed with conflict, and by 1941 the war clouds were very near. As a consequence, the Mississippi conclave proved to be the last one held for five years—the longest interval Zeta Tau Alpha ever went without a convention.

The inevitable status of the next convention was made clear early, when the President, Louise Helper, announced in the November, 1942, *Themis* that

Convention, as scheduled for this coming summer, will not be among our fraternity plans. With transportation being curtailed and needed for the war effort; with hotels needing all facilities for regular business; and with all using every ounce of energy doing her full share to win this war, none of us would think of planning a convention right now. It would certainly not be in the best interests of our country, and would even be contrary to definite requests from our government that we not hold conventions.

The June, 1943 National Council meeting hoped to hold "a business convention" in 1944, "general conditions permitting." But conditions did not permit and the contemplated 1944 meeting<sup>2</sup> was postponed "as a patriotic, wartime necessity." In this, Zeta Tau Alpha "cooperated with the request of the Office of Defense Transportation that unnecessary wartime travel be avoided." Said the President, Lucile Roberts:

. . . in the face of repeated pleas from both housing and transportation authorities, how could we as an organization profess to stand for all those things which the world is fighting a total war for, and urge our membership to put forth the maximum effort toward achieving an early and ultimate victory—yet disregard completely the opinion of those who are asking for our cooperation and consideration?

The war was over in 1945. Full-scale conventions were resumed in 1946. The 1948 golden anniversary conclave was held on schedule.

The group that met to consider proposed constitutional amendments was given the clearer title of Constitutional Council in this decade, replacing the earlier term of Grand Council. And official delegates who failed to return to



college after attending conventions were required to return their allotted expenses.

Province presidents' pre-convention training schools conducted by the national officers became well established in this period, those officers taking office at convention. Field Secretaries also attended the schools.

All of the fifth decade conventions had a convention marshal (an assistant business manager<sup>3</sup>) whose "chief duty" was "the handling of registration both by correspondence before convention and at convention." Never done before, this was the outgrowth of action first taken at the 1938 Grand Chapter meeting.

**GRAND CHAPTER. NATIONAL COUNCIL:** The 1938 trial redistribution of work between the two Vice-Presidents was given the blessing of the 1939 convention, which also approved the appointment of more than one Field Secretary, but it was the 1941 convention that wrought the greatest change since the emergence of Grand Chapter, as such, in 1902.

Everything was changed—from terminology to governmental setup. Generations of Zetas who, since the beginning of the fraternity, had been brought up on the term *Grand Chapter*, were called upon to revise their thinking and terminology when the Mississippi convention brought a new National Council into being. As *The Chain* said, . . . "The word *grand* has been deleted from the national language. It will hereafter be 'national officers,' not 'grand officers'. . . ."

Briefly, the old Grand Chapter was expanded into a larger National Council consisting of President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Alumnæ Director and Membership Director (those five comprising the elective, voting Executive Council), with the Secretary-Treasurer, Editor-Historian, Finance Chairman and Extension Chairman as appointive<sup>4</sup> non-voting officers of the newer, enlarged National Council.

This larger Council was to function as an enlarged group, covering all the activities of the fraternity, with a smaller Executive Committee<sup>5</sup> functioning within it, handling such business as normally would come under the province of an executive committee. None but personnel officers were on the Executive Committee.

The thinking and planning back of this radical change were important.

Heretofore, it was felt that much duplication had fallen on offices that were especially heavy anyway. For instance, all Grand Chapter members worked on and handled chapter affairs and problems, as well as scores of allied subjects, involving heavy correspondence and many hours of work. In addition to this phase, which really constituted the regular work assigned to such officers as the President and Vice-Presidents (who were considered personnel officers), such officers as the Secretary-Treasurer and Editor-Historian had their own specialized work to do in addition to all of this other. In other words, they

participated in the planning and work that technically fell to the other officers, and then carried on their own offices in addition. The change, it was hoped, would free them from this duplication while yet retaining them and their needed counsel, and contribution to the larger National Council.

It was also felt that the Finance Chairman would benefit immeasurably by the general knowledge of the fraternity that membership on the Council would bring. The same was true of the National Rushing Chairman who, too, needed the background and current knowledge of national developments in order to function understandingly. With the term "membership selection" encroaching on, if not supplanting, the older term, "rushing," the title of that new Council officer became Membership Director.

The five of the heavily taxed former Grand Chapter was considered too small a number to cover the country for the variety of assignments constantly in need of being carried out, from rushing coverage to house financing. The planning envisioned more officers available for traveling—more people who could be called upon—with each handling her own work without the double load of duplication.

In an article "authorized by the President of the fraternity and the Executive Council," *Themis* further explained the sweeping change. "Especially interesting," it said, "are the two new offices created on the Executive Council. Until 1935, the National Inspector was a member of Grand Chapter (then the executive body of the fraternity), but at that convention the off-Grand Chapter office of Field Secretary was created, and the office of Second Vice-President, to have charge of college chapters, was added to the executive body, since the Vice-President was in charge of alumnæ affairs.

"At the June, 1938, Grand Chapter meeting, as a trial, it was decided that each Vice-President would have charge of both college and alumnæ chapters in given sections of the country, and the division was made accordingly. The 1941 change means a new office added to the executive body to take over alumnæ activities entirely, leaving the Vice-Presidents with the supervision of college chapters and affairs, with technically neither rushing nor alumnæ phases coming under their offices. Thus, the new Alumnæ Director (who will also act as secretary of the Executive Council, since the Secretary-Treasurer no longer will be a member of it) will promote the establishment of alumnæ chapters, sign alumnæ charters, direct alumnæ affairs, and act as an ex-officio member of the National Philanthropic\* Committee—a duty formerly assigned to the First Vice-President.

"The new Membership Director," *Themis* continued, "takes over the former post of National Rushing Chairman, and she will supervise rushing throughout the fraternity. Under her falls the appointment of graduate counselors and rushing assistants, and she will also supervise the fraternity's cultural program.

\* Changed to National Service Committee before the end of the decade.

"Supervision of expansion will fall to the Extension Chairman,<sup>†</sup> who will also act as the official delegate to the National Panhellenic Congress when so assigned by the Executive Council. At present the President acts as director of extension, and provision is made for her to continue in that capacity, as well as that of N.P.C. Delegate, provisional on Executive Council action. Next, the chairman of the Finance Committee becomes a member of National Council."

The total number of National Council members became contingent upon the number of Field Secretaries appointed, and whether or not the extension chairmanship was combined with the office of N.P.C. Delegate—which was not necessarily mandatory. Therefore, the number fluctuated.

The 1941 convention's provision for the selection of province presidents by mail prior to national conventions, instead of by election at province meetings, was invalidated by the 1946 constitution, which stipulated that they be Executive Council appointees, instead of officers elected by the provinces.

The new setup was continued by the first convention held following the war and the 1948 edition of the constitution and by-laws listed National Council as consisting of the Executive Council, the Secretary-Treasurer, the Editor,<sup>6</sup> the National Panhellenic Conference Delegate and/or the Extension Chairman, and the Field Secretaries, "who shall be the national officers of the fraternity."

After 1941, the voting body of convention became the Executive Council members, the province presidents, and the official delegates from the college and alumnæ chapters or their alternates "in the absence of the official delegates."

Following Grand Chapter's earlier pattern, annual Council meetings<sup>7</sup> were continued, with written notice given to Council members and college and alumnæ chapters "at least six weeks prior to the date of the meeting." Special meetings were also provided for, and the President could still "consider as affirmative any vote not received within a specified, reasonable time."

Redistribution of provinces took place as the need arose, and province workshops were introduced. While not supplanting province conventions, the newer workshop type of meeting was both sponsored and encouraged.

Standing committees<sup>8</sup> listed at the end of the fifth decade were: Finance, House Advisory, Constitution, Scholarship,<sup>9</sup> Service, Standards, Music, Ritual, Life Membership Chairman, Magazine Secretary and Treasurer.

In 1941 the office of National Director of Chaperones was still felt to be "a comparatively new position." She had "tried to plan . . . so that chapters will receive the most help and the best chaperones." Shortly after, the title became Chairman of House Directors. When, after several years' trial, the 1945 National Council meeting discontinued the plan, the "work was placed in Central Office under the Secretary-Treasurer's direction."

<sup>†</sup> Not a mandatory appointment.



A 1942 picture of May Youngberg at her desk. Explaining the arrangement of Central Office's suite of four rooms *Themis* said, "To the south of the general office and reception room is the office of Miss Youngberg . . . to the north is a second general office . . . A store room contains supplies . . ." After 1942, no other pictures of Central Office were taken during this decade.



CENTRAL OFFICE: "Write to Central Office" or "ask Central Office" were expressions heard continuously through the years. The volume of mail that descended on the fraternity's headquarters from individuals and chapters covered every conceivable subject, question and request—all addressed to the familiar 708 Church Street number in Evanston, Illinois.

Reviewing some of the office's activities Helen Winton Jenkins\* said in 1946:

Central Office continues to be the supply house and shipping headquarters for the fraternity; [it] maintains an information bureau for the fraternity and the outside world; it supplies mimeographing and mailing service for national officers and committees; it prepares and mails *The Link* and many other bulletins.

Our more than 20,000 members necessitates having . . . two files totaling over 40,000 cards and another file of more than 20,000 addressograph plates—all of which must be kept up-to-date. . . .

An addressograph and graphotype\*\* installed "two years ago" made it possible to address the *Themis* mailing list† in Central Office, and to supply geographical membership lists—an important service.

Chapter auditing was done for all chapters except those under a local auditing service. Central Office's own books were audited by a professional company, from whom National Council and the Finance Committee received monthly audit reports, as well as a detailed annual audit for the fiscal year ending July 31.

"Necessary office assistants"—increasing in number as the volume of work increased—made up a staff headed by the Secretary-Treasurer,<sup>10</sup> the director of Central Office.

Building and remodelling programs, the granting and collecting of house and scholarship loans, were a major responsibility, as was correspondence with and supervision of House Corporations.

Chapters continued to receive their ritualistic equipment from Central Office, as well as official forms, blanks, manuals, et cetera. When an extensive notebook system went into operation in 1942, Central Office became the point of dissemi-

\* Secretary-Treasurer, in charge of Central Office.

\*\* A plate is made for each member.

† Formerly made up by the publisher.

nation of notebook pages and material. In short, the office handled the fraternity's business.

**FINANCES:** The realm of finances was expectedly active during this interval which included a global war. That it required, and had, alert and competent financial overseers was too fortunate a circumstance to leave unrecorded. But in retrospect it is doubtful if even the war posed anywhere near the financial problems of the preceding decade's depression, for the fraternity ended the ten-year span in a gratifyingly strong financial position, and with a gala convention that was by far the most brilliant in its history.

As early as 1941 the Finance Chairman declared that "the present national emergency has not affected seriously the financial status of the fraternity as a whole . . . and our income during the fiscal year 1939-1940 was greater than that anticipated in the 1939 budget." That excellent financial condition continued through the ensuing year.

By the time of the next convention five years later, that officer reported that

During the past six years the Finance Committee has held its annual meeting at the same time and place as that of the . . . Council, to further coordinate the work of all officers in carrying on fraternity business during the time when conventions were prohibited. With the changing times and needs of the fraternity it has been necessary to revise our budget to meet those needs. . . .

The committee was also interested in further "simplifying and safeguarding our funds. With an ever-increasing membership and the detail work of serving [them] in every way possible, it is desirable to eliminate unnecessary routine."

Important was the 1939 convention's modification of the rigid requirement imposed by the 1933 meeting, requiring the Finance Chairman<sup>11</sup> to be "a graduate in accounting, bookkeeping and banking." Although excellent in theory, it proved too restrictive in practical application and availability of appointees, so it was amended to read, "whenever possible members of the Finance Committee shall have a knowledge of banking, accounting, investments and law."

Various auditing systems were developed under succeeding National Treasurers, but the latest one was announced in 1946 when the Secretary-Treasurer told of a successful "new system . . . used for chapter finances in an attempt to simplify the chapter treasurer's work and increase the information regarding chapter finances available at Central Office and to our national officers . . . [giving] Central Office much closer supervision. . . ."

Another move so valuable that it became an established, if not indispensable policy, was the "annual retaining of an attorney for the fraternity whose services are immediately available to the Secretary-Treasurer." The 1941 convention learned that "he has been giving helpful legal advice and assistance since January, 1940, at an annual retainer fee. . . ."

Daring this period chapters included in their monthly bills a house or reserve fund payment, thereby liquidating this obligation while in college, rather than as alumnæ.

The "fee plan's" consideration at the 1945 National Council meeting<sup>12</sup> and its adoption in 1946 proved to be the prelude to the life membership campaign launched at that convention.<sup>13</sup> It continued from 1946-1948, with the fraternity's publications carrying extensive promotional material. *Themis* also carried the lists of enrollees.

Conceived as a means of keeping members ever close to the fraternity, to say nothing of its financial acumen, the low fee of twenty dollars for a lifetime's benefits served also to establish a quickly growing fund which made its value highly reciprocal.

During this time the Magazine Agency became a going, growing concern that had an established place by 1948, and it increased "in business each succeeding year." With support encouraged through promotions, prizes and contests, each year's mounting response totalled thousands of dollars in subscriptions. The Golden Anniversary Fund was the beneficiary. Conducted along the usual lines, with commissions offered to college and alumnæ chapters, the Agency was first handled by an individual, but it moved to Central Office in April, 1944. "This plan," said *Themis*, "is in line with the reorganization of national business affairs through which everything connected with the operation of chapter and alumnæ membership will be conducted through Central Office." It remained there throughout the decade.

**INSPECTIONS:** The 1948 edition of the constitution and by-laws carried an almost exact duplicate of the 1938 Grand Chapter meeting's inspection schedule, when it specified that "at least once in three years, every chapter shall have a visit from some member of National Council other than the Field Secretaries." *National Council* replaced *Grand Chapter*. That was the only difference. Interpretation of the officer's mission during that visit remained the same.

Although having different duties, late in the decade the advent of the Chapter Counselor gave college groups a mentor and helper who could stay and work with them longer. Chosen because of proven abilities and qualifications, these Counselors (of whom there were sometimes more than one) became an increasingly important segment in the chapter administrative picture.

Despite the war, the inspection<sup>14</sup> schedule was maintained, with visits as regular as transportation and conditions permitted. With the province presidents also making periodic visits, coverage was adequate.

This decade also saw a continuation of the valuable coorganizer system, although its use was less extensive than in the previous one. The President's 1941 report emphasized the tapering off.



**STANDARDS:** The standards reports<sup>15</sup> were retained, but something new bearing the same name was added when the scope of the Fraternity Education program was broadened "to adapt it to both college and alumnae chapters"—and its name was changed to Standards. Launched and announced in the March, 1945 issue of *Themis*, the 1946 report of the chairman, Margarethe Livesay, said of the new four-year Standards program:

It had long been the thinking of National Council members that Fraternity Education meant more than the mere acquaintanceship with facts about Zeta Tau Alpha. Actually, it embodied the personal development of our membership to its fullest potentiality. . . . Fraternity standards were defined as modes of conduct which every Zeta should develop and practice if she is to truly represent the principles of the organization.

In presenting the program . . . it was suggested that one chapter meeting a month be set aside for special programs free from the routine of chapter business. Five of these are the Standards programs, based on suggested material prepared by the National Standards Chairman, and designed to carry out the above-mentioned aims. The remaining three meetings are to be devoted to the required rituals, accompanied by program material prepared in conjunction with the National Ritual Chairman, designed to make our ritual more meaningful.

A four-year plan of . . . program material has been outlined, covering the complete experiences of each college generation and including topics which arouse . . . interest . . . in personal development toward those individual standards which a college graduate who had had the privilege of fraternity membership should have attained. . . .

For the next two years the "work of the Standards Committee continued along the plan outlined in 1946."

**EXAMINATIONS:** The title of Fraternity Examiner, first listed in *Themis* in 1939, was changed to that of Chairman of Fraternity Education, which in turn became Standards Chairman<sup>16</sup> prior to the 1946 convention when the chairman explained that

The administration of the fraternity examination also falls within the office of the Standards Chairman. The examination was revised in 1944 with the intent that it now be a standard examination rather than a new one each year, and that there will be only one fraternity examination for new initiates and members alike.

In 1945, a second revision was made in compliance with comments after one year's trial. Grades were received from chapter alumnae advisers, checked and forwarded to the province presidents and National Vice-Presidents. The first *Link* in the fall carries a report of chapter standings.

The Standards Committee continued to be "responsible for the administration of fraternity examinations" through this decade.

**RUSHING:** Rushing organization received strong impetus at this time with a special rushing officer\*—the Membership Director—placed on the Executive

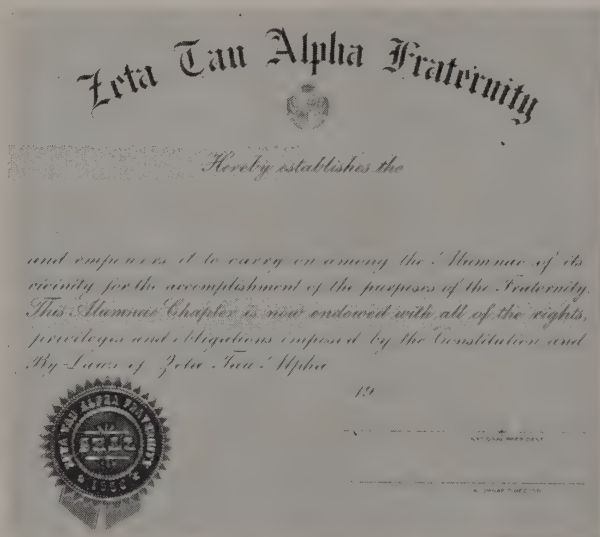
\* National Rushing Chairmen were listed until the 1941 convention.

Council to direct the membership selection program and activities.

"The national rushing program has made great strides in the two-year period," the President said in 1941. "State rushing chairmen are now functioning and [there has been] an enlargement in the true meaning of the rushing program." The Second Vice-President also commented that "our new rushing system is a forward step. Each season has seen it function more adequately."

Functioning under the direction of the Membership Director, the state membership† chairmen became key figures in an integrated system that included college and alumnæ rushing chairmen and key personnel in unorganized areas. The Membership Director's 1946 report spoke significantly of the National Rushing Committee<sup>17</sup> composed of a state membership chairman for each state. The over-all plan made sure that each chapter had adequate rushing plans and coverage.<sup>18</sup>

ALUMNÆ: ". . . The greatest undeveloped potential strength of the fraternity." That was what the Alumnæ Director called Zeta's thousands of alumnæ in 1946. For by this time there were many thousands of them, and their number was constantly increasing. This decade fully recognized their potentiality, as indeed had all others, and strove to integrate them more closely into the national organization.



THE ALUMNÆ CHARTER OF THIS DECADE

The alumnæ were given their own officer when the 1941 convention created the office of Alumnæ Director, whose duty was to "promote and supervise the establishment of alumnæ chapters [and] direct all alumnæ projects."

At the same time alumnæ life memberships were increased from twenty-five to fifty dollars. They remained at that figure until the 1946 life membership drive was launched, and they became twenty dollars.

Discussed for years, the 1939 convention changed the annual dues from one dollar to two dollars,<sup>19</sup> explaining that

† Replacing to a large extent the word "rushing," the newer term of "membership selection" had come into wide use by this time.

Heretofore an unequitable balance [has] existed. Zeta Tau Alpha is the only fraternity whose alumnæ do not contribute financially to the general support of the organization, although they share the various benefits of its services.

Planned as a measure to keep them closer to their college chapters, it became mandatory for chapters to send their alumnæ two newsletters a year. And *The Crown and Shield*, which appeared late in the decade, was directed to an alumnæ audience.

Through the years each officer concerned with alumnæ affairs worked devotedly toward the organization of more alumnæ groups. By 1948 the increases reported at each convention made possible the listing of 145.

The fraternity's philanthropy continued to be the particular project of the alumnæ.

### *Expansion*

Extension naturally tapered off in this ten-year span, for World War II, with its hazards and dislocations, precluded normal activity and made maintenance of the existing chapter roll of first importance.

Of the three chapters installed before the 1941 convention, two grants went to the state of Mississippi where previously Zeta had been unrepresented: Gamma Delta at the University of Mississippi, in May, 1939, and Gamma Zeta at Mississippi State College in May, 1940. The sixth chapter in Pennsylvania—Gamma Epsilon at Pennsylvania State University—came into being in May, 1939. Those three completed the list prior to the outbreak of the war.

By this time charter aspirants no longer received informal and formal visits, but the newly instituted pre-pledging procedure was covered in Louise Helper's 1939 report.

"Feeling that a newly installed group could not possibly absorb enough in three days to give it a chance to start its active membership as intelligent members, I conceived the idea of pre-pledging," she explained. After the new group had been pledged, some weeks in advance of installation, "a period of thorough training followed, and by the time installation arrived they knew more of Zeta, our work and our policies." She urged continuance of this plan wherever possible, and it became the procedure generally followed thereafter.

The period between 1941 and 1946 largely encompassed the war years, so no charters<sup>20</sup> were granted during that time.

*Colonizer* became a familiar word as colonization became an increasingly favorite method of extension.

Before the Virginia Beach convention two chapters were added: Gamma Eta at the University of Toledo, in November, 1946, and Gamma Theta at the University of Colorado, in November, 1947, the latter receiving Zeta's eighty-first charter grant.



### *Publications*

THEMIS: It can never be said of *Themis* that it stood still, or that progress swirled about it unnoticed. On the contrary, the magazine seemed to go out to meet it.

By this time recorded changes and advances could seem almost repetitious, were it not for the fact that the magazine constantly mirrored the changing times in form, content, thinking and tone, with a format that kept abreast of the best in magazine development.

Modern, if not moderne in the best sense, was the word that described *Themis* at the opening of the fifth decade.<sup>21</sup> Layouts were strikingly modern in the manner "seen in *Vogue* and *Mademoiselle*." The style of writing changed. Call it streamlined or what you will, it followed a new pattern that was sparkling and fresh—one that was employed with evident enjoyment.<sup>22</sup> Said a note of that period, "*Themis* went modern—beautifully, gracefully, attractively so—."

The year 1938 had seen the magazine take the biggest step in its history when the January issue appeared in the enlarged size of 8½ x 11 inches—dimensions similar to those of some of the commercial field's leading magazines.<sup>23</sup> When the larger size was introduced in the fraternity's fortieth anniversary year, the Editor<sup>24</sup> stressed the significance of the transition that took *Themis* into a "full-blown" size and "an entirely new era" and category.

The new, ultra-modern format lent itself readily to effective layouts more so than did the smaller size, and all in all, it "seemed best adapted to our use, our needs and budgets." Also, it returned "the most for the expenditure" made.<sup>25</sup>

Offset printing made its début in the November, 1938 issue's new pictorial section. Titled, "Zeta Galaxy" in the May number, the use of offset pages "featured a comparatively new printing process." It was a "delightful innovation" that belied its looks, for the lush-appearing section was considered "comparatively inexpensive, in that it was cheaper than an assemblage of cuts would have been." The use of offset was a war casualty, but the popular pictorial continued and later expanded.

"*Themis* also introduced Elizabeth roman, a recently imported type, to the fraternity magazine world" at this time.

With its distinctive cover and new size, *Themis* stood out when intermingled with any group of magazines. The rich turquoise cover with silver stampings created a generally admired cover dress that was artistic and eye-appealing. And the cover design proved even more effective when adapted to the larger size. *Themis* of the fifth decade still reflected the fraternity's preference for the use of Zeta's colors.

The four striking issues of 1939<sup>26</sup> were outstanding examples of the new format and style—pictorial beauties with a lilt and lift entirely different from

anything Zeta had known before. Pictures and illustrations were especially stunning. The new technique was employed most effectively in the pre-convention numbers while

the streamlined post-convention issue introduced many lovely layout and typographical innovations, with succeeding numbers following suit. . . .

The issues<sup>27</sup> scintillated with articles by or about some of Zeta's most famous writers and personages.

But 1940 was to change even that. "The evolution of the Summer number into a special feature issue especially slanted toward rushing" began with Grand Chapter's decision "to make the May (1940) number . . . a special issue<sup>28</sup> featuring chapter houses and other pertinent material." The resultant issue was treasured for years.

That was the beginning of the long-continued traditional Summer feature number. Said the Editor's 1941 report:

The high point has been the . . . May 1940 and 1941 super-feature issues. The former was planned at Grand Chapter's request . . . [for use] in rushing, to contain an impressive house folio. This it did, with the addition of a new rushing section and blue insert for the rushing directory, plus an eight-page offset pictorial section, as well as other features that combined to produce a rushing text that can be used for years . . .

*Banta's Greek Exchange* (July, 1940), considered

The May issue of Zeta Tau Alpha's *Themis* . . . a gay issue, sparked by a theme song, "Swinging into Spring over Zetaland." The number is beautifully designed, and features, in a series of excellent photos, many interior and exterior scenes of Zeta Tau Alpha homes. Included, also, is a well planned eight-page pictorial section, "Zetas on Parade." All credit to the Editor for an outstanding job.

The same strikingly designed issues rolled from the presses in 1941,<sup>29</sup> with a 70-pound enamel-coated paper stock reproducing beautiful pictures. It was merely a statement of fact when the Editor told convention that

in the past two years *Themis* history has been made and *Themis* has helped *make* history . . . our new *Themis* is considered largely to have been the pacesetter for the modernization trend that has been taking place in the sorority world.<sup>30</sup> One after another has adopted more modern format and typography . . .

The May, 1941 issue was also planned for rushing use, and its carefully selected and laid out sixteen-page offset section is one of the most distinctive and extensive pictorials ever presented by a sorority. . . . There were 134 pictures in the May, 1940 issue, and 145 pictures in the May, 1941 number.

But a portent of the war-threatened months ahead was sobering:

. . . what effect will the troublous times have on *Themis*? Much time has been spent investigating this. Unless some American quickly finds a formula, we may have only one more blue and silver cover.\* Our silver is aluminum ink—imported, with as yet no American substitute. Supplies in this country are exhausted. As for the rest: paper prices advance July 1.

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\* By the grace of a publisher who never ceased trying, *Themis* retained its blue and silver cover throughout the war.

If war preparations continue, if the United States becomes involved, labor prices will likely rise. Whether the government will step in and control prices is a distinct possibility, but if prices do rise, this can be viewed with not too much alarm for everyone will be affected similarly [but] for the Editor it means a very alert watch, with readiness for any changes or adaptations, which already have been taken into consideration.

It was well that "changes and adaptations had already been taken into consideration," for every one of them, and more too, were soon to be needed. War came five months later. And with it the wartime *Themis*.

The President's inspiring wartime message keynoted the January, 1942 issue that officially began the World War II era for *Themis*. The "Swing Around the Country with Alumnæ Groups" in March's Alumnæ Issue gave a detailed account of wartime and other activities. May, another feature issue designed for rushing, outlined Zeta's war service program. While format and layout became more subdued, the November number, which featured "Zetas in the Waves," was the first to show outward effects of the war. The pages rather promptly turned yellow. An essential imported whitening ingredient was missing. Meanwhile, the magazine heeded the government's injunction for paper conservation through page reduction.

Starting with the May, 1942 issue, *Themis* was mailed to members' home addresses instead of to college addresses. Chapters received a sufficient number of copies for immediate use, apportioned on the basis of size. Meanwhile, the member's personal copy safely awaited her at home. This circulation policy was in growing usage among Greek groups.

Then that autumn "Old *Themis* Cuts Went to War." The January, 1943 issue told the membership that

*Themis* has made its contribution to the war effort too, *via* its contribution to the national campaign to collect unused metal needed for war production.

Conforming to a W.P.B. order, which ordered the scrapping of old copper half-tones, the Editor-Historian spent many long hours (good and dirty ones, too) going through *Themis* and *The History* "morgue" files—sorting, discarding, retaining cuts destined for continued or new use in . . . *The History*.

When the work was completed, the metal salvaged for the government amounted to about 300 pounds—quite a sizable contribution. Other operations, in addition to removing the metal from the wooden blocks and the work done by the Editor-Historian, included sorting the engravings from the morgue file, refiling those saved, recataloging, making new proofs for the Editor's official cut-record book, and hauling to the salvage depot.

Many of these operations were not without expense.

The fifty-two page May, 1943 feature issue still carried an attractive pictorial, listed rushing chairmen on a blue insert and was generally a wartime version but worthy successor of the decade's earlier Summer numbers.

Then by the wry twist that a blanket order can achieve, penalization seemed to be the reward for early compliance with the government's request to conserve paper.<sup>31</sup>



Explaining that "Paper Restrictions Govern Pages . . ." the October, 1943 issue—the first wartime number—and the first October issue, said:

Although changes have appeared gradually in *Themis* since Pearl Harbor, this issue, more than any other, sees the evolution of the wartime *Themis*.

According to government restrictions, *Themis'* 1943 paper allotment must not exceed the tonnage used in 1942, and since, in 1942, the magazine was already observing wartime injunctions, its paper supply was frozen at that level. Thus, the many changes, innovations, et cetera (including type sizes and expediency layouts), made in this issue to solve the problem of including as much material as possible in a set number of pages, no longer expandable, but determined entirely by paper allotment.

However, into these pages has been packed an amazing amount of material, plus the planned inclusion in every issue (decided upon at the June National Council meeting) of the rushing directory and alumnae dues blank, while continuing the magazine blank and other required inclusions.

Between government restrictions and "required inclusions," the Editor's path was obviously not strewn with roses. So it was heartening when *Banta's Greek Exchange* made the generous comment that

One must look carefully to note the changes made in Zeta Tau Alpha's wartime *Themis*, though several have been instituted to accommodate vital material in the magazine, which is limited in its number of pages by government restrictions on paper, as are all publications today.

In adapting to the necessary changes, the Editor has not sacrificed attractiveness. *Themis* layouts are still effective, though less space is utilized in display. The type area has been increased, reducing margins, but creating space for many ems of type. Type sizes have been reduced in some sections also. The result is a very attractive magazine which packs a great deal of material into a smaller number of pages.

But, "while paper was frozen at the 1942 level, circulation was increasing yearly by about 1,000, thus producing a static paper situation [faced with] a constantly increasing mailing list. By various innovations the mailing list [had] been held to around 14,000 . . ."

By this time a 60-pound paper was being used, "and a switch had been made from 133-line copper half-tones to 100-line zincs." And since 1942 the Editor "had gradually but surely been devising make-up changes and condensations contrived to give more news per page."

Of this hectic period the Editor said later:

The 1943 N.P.C. emphasized four points regarding fraternity magazines: 1. They are the best method to keep organizations together. 2. It may be necessary to discontinue pictures.\* 3. Price control is in effect. (Also tight regulations and paper restrictions.) 4. Publishers are necessarily late and mail delayed calls for patience.

In 1946 she commented that

Those four points, though true, would scarcely begin the chronicle of *Themis* in recent and war-times, when every day presented some challenge in piloting a magazine through hazards, problems and vicissitudes—not forgetting that the Editor, as controller of the paper

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\* That extremity was never reached.

consumption or number of pages, had to sign a paper stating that the signer was liable if the paper allotment were overdrawn. I signed, so you had your magazine, but in the last five years *anything* happened *any* day. It was also necessary to keep up on government regulations, paper consumption tables, censorship regulations and the increased red tape and rules surrounding editing.

Mails were delayed. Publishers worked under handicaps. Many magazines were late. In fact,

issuance dates the last few years became a matter entirely out of the Editor's control. Many circumstances and factors controlled the appearance date of an issue: inability of people to meet deadlines, without whose material the issue could not go to press; pressure of wartime living and duties on personnel and contributors; the necessity of holding some issues to include important national material; nonsynchronized timing of meetings, announcements, et cetera; sudden developments; scores of exigencies; even two deaths on the Council. Deadlines are all the more important since, under present conditions, it takes an issue longer to go through printing stages than formerly . . .

Since the 1942 Council meeting's hopefully chosen seasonal designations (Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer) promptly proved to be in violation of postal regulations at that time, the 1943 meeting made another try with a "tentative, try-out recommendation" of October, December, March and June publication dates for *Themis*. That promptly ran into trouble, too, for the plan's execution meant five issues in the government-restricted, paper-tight year of 1943, when four slimmed issues of *Themis*' quality (forgetting quantity) was an achievement. But there was an October, 1943\* issue and it said:

This . . . is the first October issue of *Themis*—new publication dates of October, December, March and June, having been decided upon. . . . However, the 1943 paper allotment, gauged on the 1942 consumption, did not provide for five issues in one year (December would have made a fifth issue in 1943), so the next number will appear in January, as formerly, with March and June proceeding on the new schedule, barring the unforeseen in wartime restrictions.

The ultimate outcome: starting with the November-December, 1944 issue, double-month designations were used. To make possible the inclusion of late spring honors, the Summer issue became the June-July number. Other issues were January-February and March-April.

"Dedicated to the perpetual memory . . . of two outstanding figures<sup>32</sup> in Zeta's history . . . the January, 1944, memorial issue [wove] a forever record of two leaders—Bruce Houston Davis and Louise Kettler Helper."

Wartime evaluations of the magazine's vital role in crucial times were too significant to go unrecorded. In 1943 "*Themis*' job [was considered] more important than at any other time. As the fraternity's chief and most powerful coordinating factor," it is "the principal means of keeping informed and interested a large membership scattered literally to the four corners of the globe—

\* Held and redesigned at the last minute to include the announcement of the death of the President, Louise Kettler Helper.

reaching . . . members whose only contact with Zeta is *Themis*." And concurrence was noted when the "National Panhellenic Conference and all fraternities took even keener cognizance of the magazine's importance during the war, all placing emphasis on the . . . vital part the magazine would and did play in holding organizations together during the difficult war years."

Thus, *Themis* came through the restriction-filled war years still a quality magazine that never lost its attractiveness, faithfully reflecting and telling the Zeta story to readers "in China, England, France, Germany, South America, Sweden, India, Russia, Japan and many other countries," as well as on this continent, for "*Themis* followed Zetas all over the world. . . . The magazine not only kept our large membership welded together in one functioning, prideful whole, but [it] was a powerful instrument in the functioning of Zeta's wartime programs and projects."

By the war's end the government had decreed the use of 50-pound body stock, which did not lend itself to the reproduction of clear pictures. The road back to normality was not immediate. *Themis* was not under a paper quota in 1946, but "the paper makers still were, [so] all users were on general budgets with the mills, regardless of classification." Thus, paper remained tight until "restrictions were lifted prior to the 1947-1948 school year, but the 50-pound paper stock continued until a better grade was used in the Golden Anniversary Issue."

For the first time in *Themis*' history, an individual Zeta—"our most decorated member" in World War II, Henrietta Williams (Garcia), Psi, was featured on the cover of the January-February, 1946 issue. "Interestingly enough" it was "a duo-tone process done by a veteran who had much experience with that process in the China war theatre and who knew General Stratemeyer."

Despite restrictions, the 1945 and 1946 Summer numbers contained sixty-eight picture-packed pages, with the seventy-two-page June-July, 1948 issue topping all previous Summer numbers.

In 1946, "convention learned [that] Zeta Tau Alpha enjoyed one of the highest percentages of magazine subscribers, in proportion to its total membership, in the Greek world." For 92.5 per cent of the membership held life subscriptions to *Themis*. "In June, there were only 1,518 nonlife subscribers out of an approximate 21,000 members as of that date."

This resulted in the adoption of a graduated scale of *Themis* life subscriptions for those initiated prior to July 1, 1923 (the date the life subscription plan went into effect), as follows: 1898-1908—no charge. 1908-1918—\$3.00. 1918-1923—\$5.00. "With less than eight per cent outside the permanent *Themis* fold, this liberal offer\* invitingly beckoned the pre-1923 category."

Another gesture "recognized the paramount part that *Themis* has played in the progress and development of Zeta Tau Alpha, and the fraternity's pride in

\* The response was good—actually better than expected.



the magazine, [when] it was decided to send the November-December and January-February numbers to all nonsubscribers as complimentary, introductory issues, thus reintroducing *Themis* to the relatively few on the chapter rolls who might not have seen it for many years. Starting with the Fall number, those initiated from 1898-1908 became 'treasured honorees,' and the issue was sent to the entire membership for whom Central Office had correct, current addresses."

*Themis* was also "in the vanguard" of those endeavoring to give members an insight into the changes and issues of the day through arranged symposiums, Greek Forums and "The Editor Comments" departments. Through the printing of "Lost Lists," *Themis* also helped find hundreds of lost members.

Among the decade's new or continuing sections were: Zetas in the News; Zeta Authors; The Editor's Desk; Cited for Interest; Vignettes; Personalities; and the Service Roster.

Heavy promotional coverage included all service and war projects, the life dues campaign, Health Center, the Magazine Agency and the short-lived Travel Bureau.

Revamped for listing in three columns, the fraternity directory spilled over onto a third page, reflecting the organization's growth.

For a time *alumnæ* letters appeared in the Fall and Spring issues, while the Winter and Summer numbers carried the college letters. "Adjusting to changing times and climbing costs,"<sup>33</sup> the June, 1947<sup>34</sup> National Council meeting chose the Winter (January-February) issue as the medium for *alumnæ* letters, and the Summer number as the one to carry college letters.<sup>35</sup> Said the Editor's report in 1948:<sup>36</sup>

There had been a certain amount of repetition in the letters, and since few *alumnæ* chapters carry on full activity in the summer (and thus had little to report for a Fall issue), the Winter number seemed the best [in which] to present the letters, just as November seemed a better time than August for them to be sent. . . . For identical reasons, plus the high reader value and interest, the Summer issue was selected to carry the college chapter letters. Under this plan, the Spring (March-April) issue and the Fall number will carry all story material, thus freeing many pages for general and promotional use. . . .

The pledge list appeared in the Winter issue, which also contained marriages, births, and the In Memoriam section. The Summer number carried the names of initiates.

By 1948<sup>37</sup> the Summer issue's pictorial section had expanded to include pages of pictures featuring Zetas in Phi Beta Kappa, Mortar Board, Alpha Lambda Delta, *Who's Who*, et cetera, as well as Zeta Beauty Queens and Sweethearts. "Honors and Activities" sparkled with pictures of qualifying members, while action pictures made "The Campus Scene" and "Chapter Life" arresting features. "Relatively Speaking" was a family affair of mothers and daughters, or sisters. A special "Salute to Daughters" appeared several times.<sup>38</sup>

But all issues led up to the lavishly illustrated, gold-covered ninety-six-page Golden Anniversary Issue,<sup>39</sup> that chronicled so effectively and movingly the fiftieth anniversary convention and the Farmville plaque dedication, as well as valuable new historical high lights. Prefaced by the golden anniversary pictures of the Founders, it quickly became a treasured issue, if not a collector's item. The January, 1948 issue of *Banta's Greek Exchange* reflected the Greek world's congratulatory and generous comment when it said:

The November-December issue of the *Themis* of Zeta Tau Alpha is an outstandingly fine one, which fittingly commemorates the fiftieth anniversary of the fraternity. From its covers of gold, throughout its ninety-six pages, this issue of the *Themis* tells the fifty-year story of Zeta Tau Alpha interestingly and displays it attractively. One must only glance at the issue to realize the great amount of effort which Editor Shirley Kreasan Strout . . . put into the compilation, planning and editing of this anniversary number. It is an issue we feel certain that *Themis* readers will treasure for many years as a historical memento of their fraternity.

It was the climaxing number of the magazine's forty-five years of publication. It was the issue of issues with which to close the decade.<sup>40</sup>

**THE HISTORY OF ZETA TAU ALPHA:** Another reprint<sup>41</sup> of 1,000 sets of *The History* (Volumes I and II) was authorized in 1941, but the 1946 planned reprint ran into post-war publishing barriers. Said the March, 1946, *Link*: "During the past month the supply of Volumes I and II of *The History of Zeta Tau Alpha* has been completely exhausted. Due to paper restrictions and labor problems still present in the printing business, we are unable to have a reprint prepared for several months." A year later paper and publishing conditions were no more favorable, so the reprint was never made.

"*THE LINK*" said the October, 1941 issue, "as its name implies, is a link between Zeta's official family and our college and alumnæ chapters."

Mimeographed and issued by Central Office, it continued to be the particular charge of the Secretary-Treasurer.\* The fraternity looked to it for announcements and instructions of all kinds and, as usual, officers and committee chairmen contributed sections from time to time. Most importantly, it also became the medium for the dissemination of officers' letters and communications to chapter officers, replacing letters sent direct.

The previous decade's mailing list was continued, with clubs† receiving selected issues carrying especially important information. Again, frequency fluctuated from 1942's Fall, Winter and Summer numbers, to eight a year. Some numbers were combined. The original subscription fee of seventy-five cents was \$1 by now.

\* May E. Youngberg from 1933-1943; Mary Kammerer Brecht from 1943 to 1944; Helen Winton Jenkins from 1945 on.

† These nonchartered alumnæ groups paid a subscription fee.

**THE CHAIN:** The marine-minded *Chain* of 1939 and the Deep South paper of the 1941 Mississippi conclave proved to be the last of the convention daily papers.\* Convention accounts cover both<sup>42</sup> of them. Despite the time handicaps and pressures under which these volunteer-staffed *Chains* were gotten out, they continued and perhaps excelled the paper's already high professional standards in content and appearance. Both were well illustrated, slick-paper products of four columns.

The lack of either printing or mimeographing facilities at the 1946 convention's location prevented the *Chain's* reappearance at the first post-war conclave, and the golden anniversary convention "took to the air" with a daily newscast<sup>43</sup> that gave a new look to news dissemination.

**THE CROWN AND SHIELD:** First known as the *Zeta News Bulletin*,<sup>44</sup> *The Crown and Shield* was the first publication to be beamed exclusively to the alumnæ. Its October, 1947 début was made after the June National Council meeting decided to publish an alumnæ bulletin that would give "within-the-family news." The three-column, four-page paper was 7½ x 10½ inches in size. "Bulletin Replaces Dues Letter," said the first issue which announced that

This alumnæ bulletin is being published twice a year to meet the growing need of keeping the alumnæ of Zeta Tau Alpha informed. This copy, our first, will be mailed to alumnæ everywhere, but the next edition will go only to those . . . who have paid partial or full life memberships, or annual national dues. . .

This fall issue will take the place of the November alumnæ dues letter which has been mailed . . . the past few years . . .

After the first issue announced a name contest,<sup>45</sup> the April, 1948 paper appeared with the *Crown and Shield* masthead, and the editor† explained that

So many members submitted "The Crown" or "The Shield" for the name . . . [that] it was decided to combine them and make the masthead *The Crown and Shield*. There were dozens of entries, so it was with great difficulty that the judges finally were able to make a decision.

Originally planned to incorporate the annual dues letter and include various blanks, the *Crown and Shield* in its four issues before the end of 1948 carried a variety of news and features that made it interesting and informative. November's gala eight-page golden anniversary issue, with many fine historical and post-convention articles written especially for it, fittingly climaxed its short but successful career in this decade.

**RUSHING BOOKLET:** "Dedicated to the Mothers and Fathers of Freshman Girls," the next rushing booklet to follow previous years' *Zeta Facts* appeared late in 1944,<sup>46</sup> after the summer Council meeting authorized its printing. Re-

\* They were Volumes VIII and IX.

† The Alumnæ Director, Edith Thompson.



taining the same size, the words *Zeta Tau Alpha* centered the blue-backed booklet. Above was the coat-of-arms outlined in darker blue. The booklet had thirty pages.

But presentation of the material followed a different pattern from *Zeta Facts*' "Do You Know?" style. Opening with *The Creed* and a brief historical sketch, classified headings indicated the topics touched upon. New features included pictures of seven chapter houses and eight prominent college members. The listing of prominent alumnæ members was continued. Compiling was handled by the First Vice-President, Marion Withrow.

A year later the rushing booklet became the ward of the Membership Director, Virginia Wartman, and a white-backed 1945 edition featured a National President's picture\* on the frontispiece for the first time. Centered on the cover of the thirty-one-page booklet was a silver and blue coat-of-arms, with the words *Zeta Tau Alpha* below in matching blue.

The page devoted to *The Creed* was followed by the first of a sequence of seven house pictures found in the booklet, a new selection being used. Continuing the previous dedication and with some new arrangements and sections, the revised booklet attractively set forth "a picture of Zeta Tau Alpha in its entirety." A selected list of prominent members was again included and nine prominent collegians were featured.

With rushing booklets rolling off the presses yearly, the Membership Director had the 1946 edition ready before the Indiana convention. This cream-colored version followed the pattern of its immediate predecessor in design, size and content. Starting off with the first of the nine house pictures presented, the prominent members' section was interspersed with pages featuring eight prominent college members. The booklet was used for the remaining years of the decade.

**GENERAL MANUAL FOR COLLEGE AND ALUMNAE CHAPTERS:** As foreshadowed by discussions at the 1941 Council meeting,<sup>47</sup> the new *General Manual for College and Alumnæ Chapters*—1944 edition—was "a compact compilation" of "standard 8½ x 11 inches, three-ring size," designed for incorporation in notebooks. It was compiled by Mary Kammerer Brecht, Secretary-Treasurer.

"Set up on an alphabetical index plan" calculated to make it "easier to use," the new *Manual* was something different in form and arrangement. As intended, it supplemented the national by-laws, and into its fifty-six pages were packed the vital reference and informational tools necessary for correct functioning all the way from the national to the chapter level. The foreword, which called it a *Manual of Information*, spoke of its contents and the routine it covered as being

\* Lucile Reece Roberts.

... the means through which we learn to live an orderly life, realizing that promptness, obedience, dependability and discipline are necessary and vital, that certain tools such as notebooks and manuals are essential to the full functioning of the individual, the chapter and the national organization. . . .

The only one published during the decade, this alphabetically arranged *Manual* was used for many years.

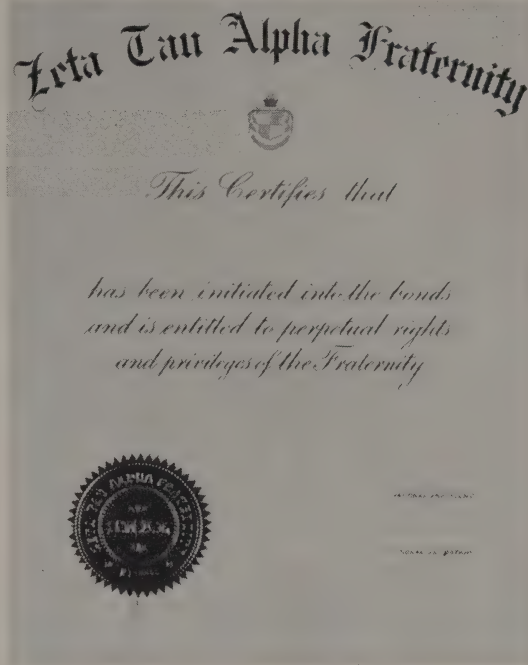
**PLEDGE MANUAL:** When the next pledge manual appeared, the September-October, 1941 *Link* announced that "Martha Morrison (McLaughlin), former Field Secretary . . . has prepared a fine new plédge manual." Also mentioned was a short delay in printing, "because of the paper shortage."

With a new title—that of *Pledge Handbook*—the tone and format reflected the publication trends of the day. Increased in size to 7 x 10 inches, the attractive, forty-page *Manual* angled an enlarged blue pledge pin across the cover that carried the title in dark blue stampings. It was completely different from its predecessor. Pages to be filled in were interspersed with pages of information.

A "Say It in Greek" page on the inside front cover introduced the Greek alphabet and gave neophytes elementary training in Greek pronunciation. The pledge-pin-centered title page was to be filled in by the pledge owner. *The Creed* of Zeta Tau Alpha followed. Then came the "Dear Mother" introduction-letter. In ensuing pages the pledges' whole new world was covered and developed under the main headings of: "The Zeta Tau Alpha Pledge," "Zeta Tau Alpha Pledge in the Greek World"; "The Story of Zeta Tau Alpha"; "Local Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha"; "The Story of My Alma Mater" and a "Pledge Points Record."

Included for the first time was a map of the United States, and pages picturing the badges and pledge pins of N.P.C. groups. This *Handbook* was reprinted in 1943.

The use of the word *Manual* was resumed when the 1946 revised edition



THE MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE used in the latter part of the Fifth Decade.

appeared late that year. It then came under the direction of the First Vice-President, Marion Jones Withrow. Additions and amplifications brought it to a total of ninety-six pages. The size and cover of its predecessor were retained, as was the "Say It in Greek" page. The dedication to the pledges said in part:

. . . This *Manual* seeks to acquaint each member-to-be with ideas of immediate concern to her; with the standards and organization animating the Greek world generally and Zeta Tau Alpha particularly; with a realization of potential opportunities for her effectiveness on the campus, in the fraternity and throughout life . . .

Zeta's new Loyalty Pledge made its first appearance on the page following *The Creed*. Succeeding pages carried a wealth of valuable topics covering all phases of Zeta background and information, as well as all aspects of pledge life and training. Space will not permit their listing here. Suffice it to say that the coverage was comprehensive, and again many pages were left blank, to be filled in by the pledge. Among the introduced topics was a suggested merit system. The pages of Panhellenic badges and pledge pins again appeared.

This was the last *Pledge Manual* of this decade.

**PLEDGE MISTRESS MANUAL:** The pledge trainer was not without tools for her task, for the 1941 *Pledge Mistress Manual* gave her detailed working instructions that began with an inspirational evaluation of "Your Responsibility." To be "placed in the vice-president's notebook," the 8½" x 11" three-ring manual covered every phase of the pledge program and was a helpful guide in fraternity training and the personal development of the pledge. Significantly, it reminded the pledge trainer that "whatever inspiration, whatever goals, whatever happiness you can give your charges will show up inevitably when they become initiated members."

Amplified and more extensively developed, the 1947 revision of twenty-four pages was done by Marion Withrow, First Vice-President.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS:** A new designation appeared as the field broadened. While publicity received great impetus in this decade and became a definite department of its own, the National Director<sup>48</sup> showed an awareness of its pitfalls as well as its possibilities and benefits, for the bitter anti-fraternity propaganda and strategy that characterized the period put a different complexion on publicity as an activity.

Reports were almost evenly divided between Zeta's own publicity activities and mention of the adverse propaganda *status quo*, especially in relation to what the alerted fraternity world was thinking and doing about it.

National publicity itself took on a widened scope, covering topics that ranged all the way from Health Center, war and service projects, to installa-



tions, conventions, officers' visits, national observances, et cetera, with a continuation of press releases, letters and bulletins. Highlighting it all was the golden anniversary year's complete publicity folio, with a nation-wide distribution which fully covered that important year.

### *Endowment and Loan Funds*

THE NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND:<sup>49</sup> "From the first days, when the fund had no source of income other than contributions," said the March, 1938 issue of *Themis*, "it has grown in importance and size until . . . it is one of the fraternity's most prominent activities. . . ." April 1 was still National Scholarship Day, just as it had been since 1912. The college member still earned the dollar she gave in 1938, but by the end of the decade the tradition of earning it no longer held. Thereafter an annual contribution was made.

By 1948, 337 college women, Zetas and non-Zetas, had been loaned a total of \$85,402.35.

THE *THEMIS* ENDOWMENT FUND was set up in 1923 to contribute to the support of the fraternity magazine, *Themis*, through interest from the fund. Through the years it became a fund of substantial stature and importance.

THE SERVICE ENDOWMENT FUND: This was the former Philanthropic Endowment Fund which was renamed when *service*, rather than *philanthropy*, became the preferred new term. The fund's purpose remained the same, but at the 1948 convention "the life dues reserve accumulated" through the life membership campaign was transferred to the Service Endowment Fund. "This reserve [was] to be held separate and invested according to the Service Endowment provisions until such time as convention acts upon a permanent project for [its] investment."

THE HOUSE LOAN FUND continued to be one of the fraternity's busiest funds, with undiminishing demands upon it for chapter house construction, remodelling, et cetera.

THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY FUND: After the Fiftieth Anniversary Fund became one of the fraternity's official funds, the 1941 National Council meeting renamed it the Golden Anniversary Fund. In 1942 an intensified campaign for magazine subscriptions (whose proceeds went to the fund) stressed that the fund's "purpose . . . now and in the future, is for the general advancement and betterment of the fraternity."

As the golden anniversary year drew to a close, an article, "The Past, Present

and Future of the Golden Anniversary Fund" reminded *Themis* readers that Zeta Tau Alpha had just

celebrated its fiftieth birthday with the most successful convention in its history. And figuring prominently in making possible some of the loveliest features . . . was the fund created ten years ago. The seven founders living in this country . . . were honored guests. Displayed at convention was the beautiful bronze plaque . . . to be placed in the Rotunda of the Virginia State Teachers College . . . with proper dedicatory ceremonies on October 15."

As the golden anniversary purposes of the fund are fulfilled, its permanent features stand out in bold relief and convention itself ratified its status as a permanent fund of the fraternity. Named in commemoration of the half-century mark . . . it will be through this fund that from now on our entire membership may contribute to the development, welfare and general advancement of Zeta Tau Alpha.

Spoken of as "a fund for Zeta itself," its income was derived largely from the by-now-well-established birthday pennies and commissions on magazine subscriptions secured through the expanding Zeta Tau Alpha Magazine Agency. Members were "invited to contribute to this flexible fund, which may be used for reactivations, new chapters and extension, including housing, chapter assistance, special projects, and needs, contingencies, et cetera."

Having successfully fulfilled two of its threefold purposes—those of "special expenses in connection with the golden anniversary and a memorial to be placed at Farmville, Virginia, in 1948"—the Golden Anniversary Fund was henceforth dedicated to the "general advancement of the fraternity's welfare."

**THE NATIONAL PROJECT:** Reminiscent of the 1940 Grand Chapter meeting's plan for a National Project was the 1941 convention's ratification of such a project.<sup>50</sup> Said the Winter, 1942 *Link*: "Last summer . . . convention adopted a National Project plan which provides that" . . . the Golden Anniversary Fund "may [be] used to assist a . . . chapter for a certain period of time."

Actually, in view of that fund's purpose, the National Project was planned as Section A under the Golden Anniversary Fund. A quiet, unpublicized plan, it was mentioned and reported on at succeeding Council meetings. In later audits it became a listed fund, and the President made an evaluation of it in her 1946 convention report when she said that the National Project had made it "possible . . . to assist materially four important chapters." Possibly having served its purpose, the Project did not continue beyond this juncture.

**THE HOPKINS FUND:** For the first time since the 1933 convention's action in turning "the entire administration" of the fund over to her, the Hopkins Fund was added to the list of those included in the constitution and by-laws, by action of the 1946 convention.

Dr. Hopkins indicated her desire to return the fund to the fraternity at the 1945 Council meeting.<sup>51</sup> She also authorized the fraternity's use of the princi-

pal, interest from which financed the Hopkins Fellowship offered in the department of home economics at the University of Texas.

**THE LOUISE KETTLER HELPER MEMORIAL FUND:** The 1946 convention also officially added the Louise Kettler Helper Memorial Fund. Interest from this gift of stock from the Helper family<sup>52</sup> in memory of Zeta's eighth President, finances the two Louise Kettler Helper Memorial Awards presented at each convention.

**THE MAUD JONES HORNER SCHOLARSHIP AWARD:** The \$100 Scholarship formerly given annually to a student at Longwood College became a permanent revolving fund, with the repaid loans being re-loaned.

### *Health Center*

Slowly the picture was changing in Virginia. As early as 1937, national officers sensed that changing picture caused by the advent of various agencies, and by 1939, "eleven years after the inauguration of Zeta's work in Virginia . . . Grand Chapter decided to ask the Philanthropic Committee to see whether or not we are contributing to a need in the community not already being taken care of by some other agency . . ." The 1940 Grand Chapter meeting mentioned "decreasing demands in our Health Center program."

But as the decade opened, little of that appeared on the surface. It was "business as usual" with a busy Health Center carrying on the usual health program, thrift sales, summer work, et cetera.

From May 1, 1939, to April 1, 1941, "the customary health program was carried on," the chairman reported, "supplemented by community activities as personnel and funds were available. Nine schools were inspected in 1939—ten in 1940. There were 3,475 home visits made, to care for 5,304 cases. Fifty-seven babies were delivered; 546 pre-natal and 545 post-partum calls were made. At present there are twenty-one expectant mothers on the list. Clinics of various sorts have been held—tonsil, dental, eye, TB and pre-natal twice a month."

In 1941, however, the philanthropic chairman\* told convention that a marked change has taken place in the public health picture in Smyth county this past year. . . . When we entered the field there was a rather loosely organized public welfare department, the churches and schools through which we were introduced. Today we have in addition, W.P.A., N.Y.A., a well organized welfare department, the Federal Child Welfare Work, the Children's Home Society, the United States Forest Service, Farm Security supervision and the county health unit.

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\* Mabel Slout Weeter, who resigned as chairman in 1941, was succeeded by Ada Swigart Hess, Beta Alpha. Upon her resignation in 1943, Magnolia Kerr (Platt) became the new Service Chairman.





THE LAST PICTURE—a side view—taken of the improved and beautified cabin shortly before Health Center was moved. The years had added luxuriant growth.

It was Health Center's aim "to continue its policy of tactful leadership in cooperation with other social agencies in the community" . . . and by that time it had become "a clearing house where any of the agencies can come for information and counsel."

Since the county health unit had a graduate nurse as well as a doctor on its staff, a practical nurse, rather than a registered nurse, was secured for Health Center around this time. An "unusually well qualified one" was found and the Winter, 1942 *Link* reported that "we are now working in conjunction with state and local agencies. Careful investigation has revealed that there is no overlapping with these other agencies, that no other agency will take over our work, and that the withdrawal of our work would result in untold suffering among these people." Health Center also cooperated with the N.Y.A. and was a training center for a while.

Then came the war, and as happened in World War I, when the mountains gave Sergeant York to the fighting forces, so did the long arm of mobilization reach into the deep recesses of even the secluded hollows.

Enlistees sought Health Center's aid in making out baffling forms and the January, 1943 *Themis* reported that

Even in Currin Valley we are feeling the effects of the war in many ways. Local boys and girls are being drawn into work in defense industries and to serve with the armed forces. A number have enlisted in the Navy and more and more are being called into the Army.

Perhaps the local medical profession has felt the loss most keenly. Several doctors have been gone two years . . . one local hospital has closed for the duration and the other takes only emergency operation cases. All of these circumstances have increased our work tremendously.

**But that wasn't all—**

Add to this the bad roads around the Center and you will see why our nurse is on the go all the time. Roads were supposed to have been repaired last summer, but inadequate machinery and lack of labor caused the work to be poorly and incompletely done, so driving has been a problem . . . especially hard on our tires and car. Fortunately, our work was acknowledged to be essential, so ration certificates for two new tubes and tires were granted.

All of these things have increased the calls and wear on our nurse. In order to meet this increase most efficiently and at the same time save gas and tires, she has divided her territory, and visits certain sections on regular days.

The spring *Link* admonished the alumnæ not to forget that "we still maintain a nurse among the Virginia mountain people whose needs are just as great as they were before Pearl Harbor," and October *Themis* said "please let us not neglect Health Center even though everyone is busy with war activities." And they didn't, and Zeta's nurse continued her busy rounds and myriad duties, although by 1942 the summer program became a casualty of the war. One year (1943) nine certificates were issued to "interested persons in the neighborhood" who attended a Red Cross Home Nursing class held at the Center.

That year "a total of 1915 calls were made in 1169 home visits. TB calls totalled 157. In one month alone the total number of homes revisited by the nurse for all causes was 141, and in those visits 222 patients were cared for." In another month, 243 patients were seen in 131 home visits. Layettes were in continuing demand.

Of course, Health Center had a victory garden. In 1939 it cooperated with the N.Y.A. training school for girls in a summer garden project, and families were grateful for seed showers, for "no seeds had been available from the government for several years." They still needed seeds in 1944, too, but signifying great progress over earlier days of reluctance to eat "them 'air funny things," last year "many families grew enough for their needs and did some canning for the winter."

Christmas in 1939 "was marvelous. Contributions were generous. Forty-five alumnæ groups, twenty-one college chapters and numerous individuals sent boxes and money." In fact, said Mabel Weeter in 1941,

Christmas has always been a gala occasion. However, for a number of years, gifts have been too lavish by comparison with the amount of money spent on the whole program. Hence, as an experiment, before Christmas of 1939, a number of groups were asked to divide their Christmas money. Half was spent, as usual, on gifts, to be sent direct to Health Center; half was sent to Central Office as a cash contribution to be used for Christmas if necessary. If not, it was to be used for the...fund for general operating expenses. The plan extended to all alumnæ groups in 1940. Some groups sent toys and new clothing; some sent money to buy at Health Center gifts to fill particular needs and to supplement suitable gifts already on hand. Twelve destitute families received food and 118 other families were given gifts.

Even in 1943 "Christmas bells rang out again for the children and elderly people in Currin Valley . . . indeed a white Christmas." *Themis* said: "Everything was high this year, but with boxes and money sent (and contributions from Marion) there were toys and clothing for 379 children and twenty-six elderly people and invalids."

Building improvements and equipment acquisitions continued. To name but two—weaving facilities were expanded when one province made possible the

purchase of one large loom and three small ones. The installation of a septic tank improved the cabin's plumbing system.

While making adjustments "to the needs of the community," and donating books to schools when "we had more books than shelves," Health Center's library continued its useful career. Through the September, 1945 *Link* the chairman asked "for a few books that have been issued in the last few years for small and teen-age children," and reported that "the Marion library has donated about 150 books to our library recently . . ."

But 1943 was Health Center's last year in its original location. "Because of local circumstances\* it has been necessary to change the location . . ." the new Service Chairman told the membership through the November, 1944 *Themis*. This "change in sites was considered a step forward in the smooth functioning of our work . . . [and] in the best interests of Zeta's home-front philanthropy in Virginia."

The new home was on Nick's Creek, on the property of a local doctor who soon "remodelled the house" so that "we now have a very modern plant with a nice clinic room." "Health Center is beautiful in spring," the nurse wrote in 1945, "now painted white, it is surrounded by blooming apple and cherry trees." The address and post office box number remained the same.

In the same issue that announced the move, the chairman reported that

the nurse is now comfortably situated in the new home, her neighbors seem very pleasant and she is already ministering to their needs. She conducted chest clinics and children's clinics in October, besides her normal routine calls. She is able to secure sufficient gas to cover about 1500 miles a month. In spite of many handicaps, the past year has been one of the best years of service at Health Center. Our nurse says our work there is worthwhile and has made a lasting contribution to the health of the community.

Thus, the transition to a different area was made smoothly, and the truth of the nurse's assertion that Zeta had "made lasting contribution to the health of the community" was yearly becoming more evident, although health was only one facet of the many contributions and benefits manifesting themselves.

Along these lines the chairman summarized the 1944 status when she said that

Smyth county is indeed fortunate and much better off than other rural areas because of the ZTA health work. The Center operates a lending library and conducts thrift sales of old clothing donated by alumnæ. Each year it brightens Christmas for a large group of children and old people. Besides giving aid to the sick, our nurse makes every effort to educate and promote self-reliance in those with whom she works. While health education and care are the major interests . . . , the nurse is a friend to whom people in the territory turn with their many problems. In turn, the agencies contact Health Center for information they lack. Thus, Health Center seeks to serve the people of the territory.

In 1945, "our big new clinic room with its Christmas tree and decorations was beautiful, as was the whole house," an account ran. "The twelve-by twenty-

\* Involving a title situation to which the years had found no solution; hence a move to a new location was deemed wise. Zeta's rights were therefore sold to a local purchaser.



**NEW HEADQUARTERS.**

Said the *Smyth County News*:  
 "ZTA Health Center for sixteen years an asset of the Sugar Grove-Attoaway area of the county, has just moved to its new home on the Dr. D. C. Boatwright farm on Nick's Creek road off highway 11, near Atkins. The new phone number is 4896." The picture shows the Zeta nurse returning from a call.



foot room wouldn't hold the 113 children who overflowed to the kitchen and doctor's and nurse's office. Parents and grandparents were there, too."

"Do Something for Somebody Somewhere" became the slogan in the last years of Health Center's existence, a slogan the chairman told the 1946 convention she "saw put into action" during her visits from 1943-1946.

"I was with the nurse for several days on both occasions," she related, "and I saw the type of service she is rendering. Throughout the year she makes hundreds of calls, gives valuable nursing service, cooperates with the county and state health agencies. . . . Since September, 1944, we have been conducting well-child clinics at the Center instead of taking patients to the Health Unit as formerly. Health Center has a standing arrangement with the local hospital to take care of those who need tonsils removed at a nominal expense. . ."

But actually, the whole picture had changed. Conditions had changed, and "the character of our work had changed with the years." Leaders recognized the fact and re-evaluated the whole program.

As a result, after having faithfully served the mountain people for eighteen years at a time when no other service was available, the year 1946 wrote finis to Zeta's philanthropy in Virginia. Long aware of the changing local picture and the establishment of other health agencies and facilities, it became apparent that Zeta's work was done, its purpose accomplished.

"As times change and progress is made we [must] change our plans to meet those changing conditions," the President said. "We have every right to be proud of our past service. We were the only fraternity maintaining such a service without any outside financial assistance; our Health Center . . . pioneered in that work in Smyth county."

Preparatory to its discontinuance, the 1946 "convention voted the regular amount in the budget for continued operation until some other national service project could be decided upon at the 1948 convention," the National President told the alumnæ chapters in a November 9 bulletin. But the nurse's resignation

because of illness, and the inability to find a replacement qualified "to carry on the work we have done in the past," necessitated "closing the Center in October."

The closing of Health Center and the disposition of its effects was under the personal supervision of the Finance Chairman, Doris Murray Richmond. Interesting as confirmation of changed conditions was a line in her final report which said, "I assure you that times have changed in that community . . . As soon as word got around that Health Center was being closed . . . I was literally surrounded by persons eager to buy . . . and they all had money to do so."

While Health Center had long been dear to hundreds of Zetas, no better end could be desired than this "mission accomplished" finis, which closed the book on nearly two decades of service in the home state of the fraternity.

It will always be a splendid chapter in Zeta's history.

### *The Virginia Dental Clinic*

As a continuing work after the closing of Health Center, Zeta Tau Alpha next financed corrective dental work for children of its former territory.

In the fall issue of *Themis* the year after the Center's closing, Doris Richmond told of "the need of funds to pay for . . . dental corrections discovered in the school clinics," which she learned about when seeking "to discover what service Zeta could [next] render in supplement to [Smyth county's] expanding program<sup>53</sup> of professional health and social work." While school examinations were state financed, no funds were available for corrective work.

Marion dentists cooperated, and the "Zeta Tau Alpha Service Fund for Smyth county was set up for the year 1946-1947, with plans to specialize in dental correction."

"Although Health Center is closed," the final report read, "the rural school children of medically indigent families in Smyth county, Virginia, still have reason to be grateful to Zeta Tau Alpha. One hundred and forty-eight of them, approximately half of whom had never entered a dentist's office before, have received dental care through Zeta Tau Alpha clinics during the past school term."

### *The Cerebral Palsy Project*

After operating a Health Center in the mountains of Virginia for eighteen years (1928-1946), Zeta Tau Alpha turned to an entirely different field for its next service project.

After 1947 its program became the treatment and training of cerebral palsied children, the fraternity cooperating with the Cerebral Palsy Division of the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Incorporated, in the publi-

cation of a much needed equipment manual for which Zeta Tau Alpha appropriated thousands of dollars.<sup>54</sup>

This previously unavailable guide "will describe and picture the various kinds of therapeutic equipment needed and used in cerebral palsy cases, including information pertaining to its construction and where it will be obtainable," the first announcement said. "The brochure will be sent to hospitals, public and private agencies working with crippled children, doctors, therapists, parents, schools and many others dealing directly with cerebral palsied persons." Said the National Society's nation-wide press release of September 15, 1947: "This action of Zeta Tau Alpha makes possible the distribution of urgently needed informational material."

When the National Service Chairman, Anne Winnes Redmond, Beta Theta, explained the nature of the project and Zeta's adoption of it in the November-December, 1947 *Themis*, she said in conclusion:

As progress was made in treating all sorts of handicaps, the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults was organized, with headquarters in Chicago, and with more than 2,000 state and local member societies . . . It is directed and supervised by professionally trained specialists in all fields . . . Laymen [know] it through the annual sale of Easter seals which the Society sponsors . . .

About eighteen months ago, a special Cerebral Palsy Division was organized to carry out its program on a nation-wide scale. As its presence was felt, therapists, technicians, physicians, universities and many interested individuals wrote in, requesting aid in constructing special equipment prescribed for cerebral palsied cases. Unfortunately, no co-ordinated and organized material . . . was available. No survey to glean such information had ever been made . . . The workers in the Division were well aware that they were not adequately meeting the urgent need, but with no money available for printing such information, they could only struggle to do their best with the material on hand.

At this juncture their need was brought to the attention of Zeta Tau Alpha, which was then between service projects. And here the fraternity entered the picture.

Said *Themis*:

The urgency of all sorts of help was so great that when Zeta Tau Alpha said, "Zeta wants to help. What can we do?" the answer was immediate. "Our Society needs most of all a brochure giving pictures, blueprints, and instructions to make construction of special equipment for cerebral palsied children easier and more readily available. We could use 30,000 . . . right now.

Deciding to contribute money for the equipment manual, National Council adopted the project on a one-year's trial basis, pending acceptance at national convention for continuance. "Work began at once on the collection of pertinent material . . ."

A new type of service story appeared in *Themis*, as alumnae groups cooperated with local units of the National Society all over the country, contributing every kind of service, from transportation of cerebral palsied children to



treatment centers, to the donation of money for rubber tile floors in a clinic's playroom. And Zetas of all ages assisted with the Society's Easter Seal sale.

The 1948 convention ratified National Council's choice, and a financial goal of \$10,000 was set for the coming two-year period. And since service work was "the particular project of the alumnae," Zeta's 145 alumnae groups set their sights accordingly.

Adopting this project as whole-heartedly as they had Health Center, interest increased and activity quickened, as all segments of the country became conscious of it and alert and eager to do all possible for this cause, of which *Themis* said: "It gives us a sense of humble gratitude to be able to help . . . What could be more in keeping with our standards and ideals than, in our strength, to reach out to those who, but for help such as ours, might be destined through no fault of theirs to endure futile lives, hemmed in by despair and neglect; and to set them on their way toward better living?"

The Cerebral Palsy Equipment Manual, a work of magnitude requiring months of careful technical and medical checking, did not appear before this decade ended. It was an accomplishment of a few years hence. In the meantime, the achieving of the high financial goal lay ahead.

### *National Panhellenic Conference*

When the 1939 convention made it nonobligatory for the National President to act as the official delegate to N.P.C., the change in wording provided that she "shall attend the National Panhellenic Congress, and may be the official delegate." That provided a new flexibility, and followed along lines that had been under consideration for some time.

The entire Grand Chapter attended the twenty-sixth National Panhellenic Congress held November 2-4, 1939, at the Greenbrier Hotel, in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. The President, Louise Helper, was the official delegate. Other officers in attendance were Lucile Roberts, Helen Harrison, May E. Youngberg, and Shirley K. Strout.<sup>55</sup>

The tenor of the times was reflected in the opening address of the chairman, Violet Young Gentry, Alpha Delta Theta, when she said:

. . . There will probably never be a time in our fraternity leadership when you and I will feel the burden of responsibility we feel today. Dr. Isaiah Bowman . . . said in a recent address: "We are living in the dark hour of a gifted age." . . . We cannot, of course, settle the pending problems of the world, but we can, through our programs, help our college women adjust themselves to a difficult time. We can give a sense of security and hope that the college woman of today will be permitted to live the life for which she is being trained, in a world of order . . .

We have come . . . to take a new sounding . . . to try to discover if we can, what kind of a college world we will be expected to serve during the next decade . . .

The merger of Alpha Delta Theta and Phi Mu was announced at the end of this Congress, which spent considerable time discussing the growing problem of unfavorable publicity and affirmed its belief in the principle of limitation—"questionnaires and other material collected the past two years" having "pointed to the success of the chapter limitation plan."

N.P.C. again agreed "not to enter the fields already occupied by the Association of Education Sororities, and agreed to consider as the field for the Association of Education Sororities the institutions accredited by the American Association of Teachers Colleges."

Statistically, "latest figures" revealed that there were over 342,000 women in all the N.P.C. groups. There were 1,157 chapters in colleges and 2,181 alumnae chapters.

Before the next meeting, Beta Phi Alpha merged with Delta Zeta.

The President, Louise Kettler Helper, was Zeta's official delegate to the next Congress, held almost on the eve of Pearl Harbor, November 26-29, 1941, at the Biltmore Hotel, in New York City. War tension was in the air. Topics reflective of the uneasy times were threaded through the meeting of which Mrs. Helper wrote:

This Congress in itself was unique, for only once before in its history has it met with the men's group—the National Interfraternity Conference. It was most timely, and it [was] interesting . . . that the planning, the speakers—all thought in terms of our part in world affairs. Little did we realize then how timely was that planning.

Of Zeta's participation she said: "A part on the College Panhellenic Workshop<sup>56</sup> program was the particular assignment<sup>57</sup> of your delegate . . . Since this type of program will be brought to college campuses in the next two-year period . . . the pioneering in this type of program . . . was well received."

"On the professional side and undertaking a most difficult assignment was your Editor-Historian,<sup>58</sup> Shirley Krieg Strout, who handled the publicity for the Congress. In a city the size of New York this was no small assignment, and one most difficult to fulfill. Not only did N.P.C. receive much publicity, but it was good publicity . . . Mrs. Strout did an excellent job and was highly praised by N.P.C. for her work.

"At Beekman Tower's tea-dance for N.P.C. and N.I.C. you would have been delighted to have been greeted by Lucile Reece Roberts, heading the receiving line as chairman of the delightful affair."

In addition to Mrs. Helper, officers present were: Lucile Roberts, Billy Ruth Young Rubottom, Jane Carfer Theobald, May Youngberg and Shirley Krieg Strout.

N.P.C. had twenty-two member groups at that date.

War was declared a few days after the 1941<sup>59</sup> meeting. A year later a called meeting was held November 14-15, 1942, at the Medinah Club, in Chicago.

For the first time in sixteen years, Zeta's official delegate was not its President.

Said the January, 1943, *Themis*: "Taking action made possible by the 1941 convention—namely, to have an officer other than the President serve as the official N.P.C. delegate—the Executive Committee appointed Mrs. Roberts," the First Vice-President. The National President, Louise Helper, was the alternate delegate.

"A deep conviction that fraternities are a constructively contributing part of the education which 'is defense,' and which is a thing vital to the wise solution of the problems both of the war and of the peace which will follow it marked this called meeting," said the official account written by Amy Burnham Onken, Pi Beta Phi.

"N.P.C. expressed its firm belief that the fraternity is a decisive factor in developing qualities of leadership and is strengthening standards of right and fine living—a factor needed today as never before—" when it recommended:

"That all N.P.C. fraternities make a special effort to keep their members in college, urging them to complete their education in order to be better fitted to do their part in the development of democracy in the post-war period."

The 1943<sup>60</sup> Congress held October 30–November 1, in Chicago, convened just a few days after the passing of Zeta Tau Alpha's President, who had become a well known and well loved figure in N.P.C.

Expressing their "sense of personal loss in the death of a valued friend and admired fraternity representative, members of the National Panhellenic Congress stood silently at the opening session in tribute to the life and service of Mrs. Harold Hill Helper, President of Zeta Tau Alpha, and its National Panhellenic Congress Delegate for many years."

The Congress also included in its resolutions: "Be it further resolved that members of this Congress express sympathy in the death of Zeta Tau Alpha's President, Mrs. Harold Hill Helper, and that copies of this resolution be sent to the family of Mrs. Helper, and to the Council of Zeta Tau Alpha."

Dr. May Agness Hopkins, who was announced in the October, 1943, *Themis* as the new official delegate, represented Zeta Tau Alpha, "succeeding Mrs. Roberts who became N.P.C. Delegate last year, she, in turn, succeeding Mrs. Helper." Mrs. Roberts attended as the alternate.

This twenty-eighth Congress, held during the height of the war, purposely limited its program to business sessions and officers' discussion groups.

The twenty-ninth session which convened November 1-4, 1945, at the French Lick Springs Hotel, French Lick Springs, Indiana, was the last to be known as the National Panhellenic Congress. Its earlier name—National Panhellenic Conference—was reverted to with the adoption of a "completely revised constitution and by-laws." The word Congress was dropped.



Representing Zeta Tau Alpha were Dr. May Agness Hopkins, official delegate; the President, Lucile Reece Roberts; Mildred McFall (then Secretary-Treasurer); Shirley K. Strout, Editor-Historian, and Helen Winton Jenkins, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer at the time.

"Among the recommendations adopted as a result of . . . constructive thinking together" were those approving "basing systems of collegiate chapter limitation or pledge quotas on recognition of our chapters as social groups rather than as residence units" . . . and N.P.C.'s reaffirmation of "its policy of approval of a short open rushing season." The "present N.P.C.-A.E.S. agreement [was to] remain in force." Phi Omega Pi merged with Sigma Kappa before the next meeting.

Zeta's official delegate to the thirtieth N.P.C. held November 10-14, 1947, at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colorado, was Lucile Reece Roberts.<sup>61</sup> Other Council members in attendance were Helen M. Harrison, National President; Marion Jones Withrow, First Vice-President; Helen Winton Jenkins, Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley K. Strout, Editor-Historian,<sup>62</sup> with Wanda Garver, Field Secretary, coming for the banquet.

The admission of groups "restricted in membership or in fields" changed considerably the former structure and makeup of the Conference. Again quoting from Miss Onken's official story:

One of the most important decisions which the Conference had to make was in connection with the application of eleven other national fraternities to associate membership in N.P.C. It had to decide whether [it] could better serve the cause of fraternities by remaining a small group of mutually competitive fraternities or by enlarging its membership by admitting these other fraternities which had proved their value as nationals which served groups restricted in membership or in fields.

After reviewing the situation . . . and with the deep consciousness of the democratic right of N.P.C. to remain the type of group which it had been for more than fifty years, during which it had built up international recognition for leadership and service, N.P.C. by unanimous votes in all cases, admitted to membership Alpha Epsilon Phi, Phi Sigma Sigma, Delta Phi Epsilon, Sigma Delta Tau, and Theta Phi Alpha and granted associate membership to Alpha Sigma Alpha, Alpha Sigma Tau, Delta Sigma Epsilon, Pi Kappa Sigma, Sigma Sigma Sigma and Theta Sigma Upsilon. . . .

The admission of the A.E.S. groups, in particular, held special significance for Zeta Tau Alpha. It paved the way for the reestablishment of its Alpha chapter.

This Conference also reaffirmed its disapproval of deferred rushing and went on record as adhering "to the policy which approves a short open rushing season after matriculation and an early pledge day." Also, "no person who has resigned from one N.P.C. fraternity is eligible to membership in another N.P.C. fraternity."

There were twenty full members and eleven associate members at the end of the meeting.

### *Awards*

This was the decade of awards. By the end of 1948 the assembled trophy collection made a dazzling display that brought anticipation to a fever pitch the night of convention's final Awards Banquet.

First awarded in 1939 was the trophy that became the Grand Chapter Award—a graceful sterling silver bowl of Old English design. It later became known as the Achievement Award.\*

The Louise Kettler Helper Life Membership Awards to a college and an alumna member were first made in 1946, while “three graceful, glowing, golden trophies” made their *début* at the golden anniversary convention—the Golden Anniversary Scholarship Cup, the Standards Award, and the Merit Award.

The presentation of scholarship plaques to chapters ranking first on their campuses was continued, and a veritable procession of awards and trophies recognized achievement in fields that ranged from song writing and winning exhibits to rushing skits.

The decade's four national conventions awarded honor rings to: 1939—Lucile Reece (Roberts), Beta Gamma; Doris Murray (Richmond), Alpha Rho; Dorothy Longmire (Warlick), Zeta; Marian Johnson (Castle), Tau.

1941—Jane Carfer (Theobald), Theta; Margaret McIntyre (Lacey), Alpha Kappa; Kathryn Dally (Woolston), Psi.

1946—Marion Jones (Withrow), Upsilon; Treva Mae Allen (Seepe), Alpha Zeta; Lavone Eilerts (Dooley), Alpha Upsilon; Marion Wingate (Palin), Zeta; Edith Thompson, Beta Rho; Virginia Wartman, Alpha Rho; Helen Winton (Jenkins), Beta Theta; Dorothy Gibbons (Gross), Beta Beta-Gamma Epsilon; Margarethe Faulstich (Livesay), Alpha Pi; Ella Waters (Pfau), Phi; Mary Kammerer (Brecht), Chi; Florence McLeod (Strickler), Beta Rho; Grace Bennett (Chandler), Alpha Nu; Edna Klinger (Seldon), Beta Tau; Ada Belle Shelton (Ketcham), Mu; Anna Elliott (Cash), Mu; Jo Pierce (Tenner), Mu; Margaret Sullivan (Devers), Alpha Sigma; Evelyn Raymond (Swingley), Alpha Sigma; Margaret Miller (Jacoby), Alpha Psi; Dorothy Culp (Wanner), Chi.

1948—Mary Stacy Dodge (Jackson), Phi; Anne Winnes (Redmond), Beta Theta; Roxine Beard (Petzold), Alpha Eta; Hazel Wood (Spencer), Alpha Rho; Viola Saur (Downing), Psi; Genevieve Gragg (Gardner), Alpha Phi; Margaret Wilkinson (Bell), Epsilon.

\* Renamed with the donor's consent after the 1941 governmental change.

*Customs, Traditions and Policies*

It had been fifty years in the making—this intricately woven pattern of traditions that took form as decade followed decade. “Nothing contributes more to the individuality of a fraternity than its customs and tradition,” said the earlier *History of Zeta Tau Alpha*. “They serve as the distinguishing features that differentiate it from all others, for a fraternity has its own individuality no less than a person.”

Some of Zeta Tau Alpha’s traditions are direct inheritances from the earliest days; others encountered alterations as the years passed; others developed with the years. But all are the best heritages of the past, their very survival attesting their wisdom and time-worthiness. And they are as much a part of the background and structure of an organization as are the rules and regulations governing it—and as powerful.

Reiteration of Zeta Tau Alpha’s official designation as a *fraternity* and not as a *sorority* was increasingly strong in this decade. As an occasional concession to the general public’s invariable confusion in regard to calling a woman’s group a *fraternity*,<sup>63</sup> newspaper stories, et cetera, sometimes used the word *sorority*. But entirely aside from early conventions’ confirmations of the Founders’ preference for the word *fraternity*, current usage in this decade strongly favored it as distinguishing collegiate organizations from high school and business clubs using Greek names and calling themselves “sororities.”

“There is no standardization of type in Zeta Tau Alpha.” This followed the tradition of the un-typed, well-rounded founding group<sup>64</sup> which did, however, insist upon high personal qualities, congeniality and “staying-power.”

Except for additions, the list of traditions changed surprisingly little through the years. So, to gather them together, since the fifth decade ends this volume, and at the risk of repetition, the following pages carry a certain amount of recapitulation along with the decade’s additions.

The official list,<sup>65</sup> made up for various publications and other uses from time to time, told the members that the badge is worn at all times, unless regulation or custom dictates otherwise. It is always worn over the heart, never used for utilitarian purposes, and no other badge is to be chained to it or placed above it. This also applies to the pledge square. Each member is required to own a badge.

The use of the coat-of-arms is reserved for and restricted to initiated members.

The candlelight service is traditional at preference parties during rushing.

College chapters honor their initiates with an initiation banquet, and membership certificates or recognition pins are given to new initiates by their Big Sisters.



The "Zeta Prayer" is sung before dinner at the chapter house and at other appropriate times when Zetas gather together.

Chapters send greetings to a new chapter at the time of installation and members wear turquoise and gray ribbons under badges and pledge pins.

Upon the death of a member, chapter members wear black under their badges for three days. The entire fraternity follows this custom when the deceased is a member of National Council. A memorial service is held at national conventions for those who have passed on.

Chapters send greetings to the individual Founders on October 15. The Founders' Day service is given on Founders' Day. That anniversary is observed with some appropriate function. The President's annual Founders' Day Proclamation<sup>66</sup> is read at this time.

The official signature is used only in inter-member correspondence.

Zeta Tau Alpha has no "brother" fraternity.

The convention custom of having a model initiate continued, but after 1941 she became known as the convention initiate, rather than the Grand Chapter initiate, as had been the case since 1912.

"In the loveliness that only pure white can lend," the custom of White Day, inaugurated at the 1937 convention, was continued throughout this decade. The Awards Banquet the last night of convention also became traditional after the 1939 convention. At this time, recognition is given to chapters and individuals who have attained a record of achievement and service.

When the 1948 convention's model initiation was conducted by selected chapter officers (chosen for their proficiency in giving the service) "instead of by already over-taxed national officers," a custom started nearly a half-century ago when Grand Chapter gave the first service, bowed to modern adjustment.

The honorary members spoken of in the previous decade now fell into three classifications: the convention initiate, the province initiate and the installation initiate. The last two categories were new. Properly qualified province initiates—"outstanding local women or former pledges 'who have proven their worth and continued interest in the fraternity'" were authorized by the 1939 convention, as were "installation initiates at the time of the installation of a college chapter."

Convention initiates<sup>67</sup> of this decade were: (1939) Florence Hoffmann (Shideler); (1941) Gena Branscombe; (1946) Flora Witherspoon (Davenport).

Unchanged were these two policies from Volume II of the first *History of Zeta Tau Alpha*: "Feeling keenly that each member should be chosen for her own qualifications and according to her own merits. . . . Zeta Tau Alpha has never had any . . . policy in regard to the . . . pledging of relatives. Chapters have been left free to select their own membership according to their best judgment."

And, "Reverence for the Bible is an outstanding characteristic of Zeta Tau Alpha and, since much of its ritual and ceremony are based upon the Bible, it is consistent with tradition and belief that there be Bible readings . . . preceding business meetings of the chapters."

One week prior to initiation, chapters hold Zeta Tau Alpha week.<sup>68</sup>

It was a firm policy-ruling "that no college chapter shall pledge a girl without first having received an acceptable recommendation."

The torch guards\* attached to the pins of some national officers signified service for at least a full term on either Grand Chapter or the Executive Council, the wearer being "entitled to wear the guard for the remainder of her life."

In addition to the customs that the years transformed into traditions, good usage and good taste dictated certain forms of speech and modes of conduct that were considered correct.

Following the traditional preferred terminology used for years, members were spoken of as "Zeta Tau Alphas" or "Zetas," and not as "ZTAs" or "Zeta Taus." "The term 'the Zeta girls' has an outmoded ring and is not appropriate for the present," said a 1946 listing of "Points of Good Usage."

The term *active* was a casualty of this decade. Soon after a 1940 good usage listing for *Themis* recommended its disuse, convention confirmed the change. Chapters were thereafter referred to as "college chapters." Members in college were called "college members," not "actives." Since the word "active" implied the inactivity of all those out of college, the fraternity world questioned the desirability of its use.

A member not in college is an "alumna," not an "alum."

The membership was also reminded that "unofficial abbreviations for 'Panhellenic' should be avoided. 'Panhellenic' is a single, unhyphenated word."

Zetas never speak disparagingly of other fraternities or their members, and members were reminded that "one's chapter is comparable to one's family." Zetas never criticize the fraternity or its members in the presence of non-Zetas.

### *The World War II Story*

"When I say 'Happy New Year' to you in 1942," Louise Helper's message read in January *Themis*, "it is not the usual greeting which I send, nor does it carry quite the same meaning. Too much has happened in our world to send that greeting, for our entire order has changed in the past thirty days. Life itself has taken on a new meaning and our country has become more priceless to each of us.

. . . We of the Christian world realize more than ever before what that means to us, and the part we must play to carry its principles and ideals to all, not merely by a passive

\* At the 1955 National Council meeting the privilege of wearing the torch guards was extended to all members of National Council.

creed but by a living one. A new crusade is being born, now in our twentieth century, and we, here and now, are the crusaders for those truths and principles.

I know that each of you in Zeta Tau Alpha can be counted on to carry her full share to the successful end of tyranny and ruthlessness, which has been thrust upon our world . . .

There is a job for each of us, and each, if well done, is of equal importance.

Together and united as never before, our 15,000 members can and shall be a vital force in helping to heal the sorrows of the world.

For long months, as the war in Europe cast lengthening shadows over this country, as tension grew in the East and more men went under arms, efforts were channeled toward the "defense effort"—as the feverish activities of that apprehensive period were called. But after Pearl Harbor—December 7, 1941—it was war. And our world, as we knew it, vanished on that day. "War effort" supplanted "defense effort." An electrified country mobilized. The inspired message of Zeta's President was the inevitable clarion call which came promptly.

"Since no two local situations are the same," the February, 1942 *Link* advised that "no general suggestions are being sent out. Our Alumnæ Director will work with individual chapters, answering questions and giving suggestions regarding various phases of war services. College chapters should consult the National Vice-Presidents when there is a question of entering college activities connected with the war program."

The Winter, 1942 *Themis* told the membership that "in wartime, Zeta chapters . . . and the chapters of all fraternities . . . should cut expenses below the normal level and build up cash reserves as safeguards against the uncertainties of the future."

Specified casualties were "orchids for new initiates, expensive dance bands, favors, et cetera" . . . all of which were "out for the duration. Instead, the social chairmen will use their ingenuity in planning social affairs that are inexpensive and just as much fun. In some places the traditional formal dance may be transformed into a benefit party for war relief."

Campus life with its accelerated programs, as well as accelerated lives of individuals, was governed by and keyed to the exigencies and demands of war times. That changed mode was vividly expressed in a March, 1942, bulletin which Louise Helper sent to the alumnæ.

"Being women of training, and having had many advantages," she told them, "it is our responsibility to use our energy where it will count most, to use it wisely . . . Whatever your particular assignment, do it to the best of your ability.

"Shortages and priorities are new experiences to America . . . In each community we can set the pace for the acceptance of this part of the war effort. When you look lovely and charming in a past year's outfit, or walk and *like* it, plan your entertaining ingeniously



around informality and congenial friends, or follow through in a thousand other ways, you are being a good American and the right kind of Zeta, too.

"Leaders everywhere are stressing the avenues of positive victory; material and spiritual armament. One without the other cannot do the job. Again, as leaders in your community, what are you doing on the 'spiritual' front? This means so much more than just going to church. It is all of these things and the will to see justice done—to do it in our everyday life."

Considering the college Zetas, she said:

Our young people need us. They need our help and guidance. They face contradictions and uncertainties. Educated for peace and taught in those high ideals, they are now finding it hard to make an about face and think in terms of "all-out war." They have been trained to "develop the individual." Now they must learn to work, think and act for the interests of the group. The whole educational system is being changed. School for twelve months each year may be the lot of many a college student . . . Some can't stand such a pace. They need to be able to talk to us. Our alumnae advisers in these times are doing a national service to our young people when they undertake these assignments.

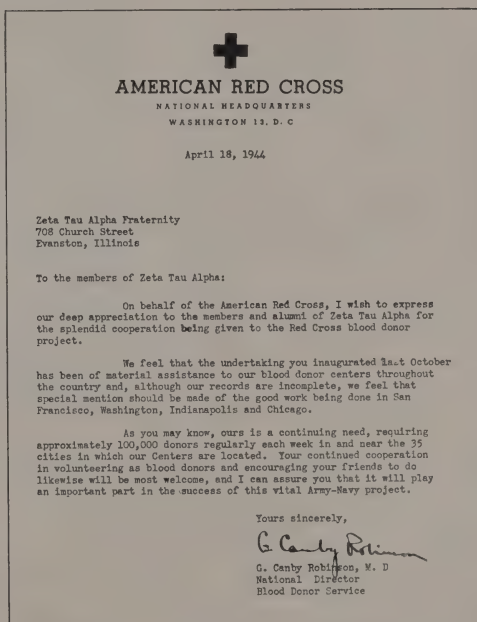
The problems and decisions besetting the college members were early recognized and in June, 1942, they were encouraged to "1) stay in college and get an education which would prepare them for a part in the post-war world; 2) maintain good health; 3) cooperate with campus activities by going to the dean and volunteering chapter service in any organized program . . ."

When Zeta's own war program was presented in the May, 1942 *Themis*, the National War Service Chairman\* reminded the organization that

the Office of Civilian Defense tells us that in its projected program no organization will be permitted to operate as a unit. We recognize the importance of this policy. Nevertheless, Zetas all over the country are working together as chapters on special projects and in specific activities concerning the war program.

Activities needing volunteers were outlined and the government's admonition not to "spread thin" our efforts was emphasized. "Don't, by reason of en-

\* Mary Goodwin (Williams), Alpha Xi, succeeded Mary Porter (McCorkle), Omega, the first chairman, in January, 1944.



thusiastic desire to help, volunteer for too many things." Every college and alumnae chapter was told to appoint a war service chairman.

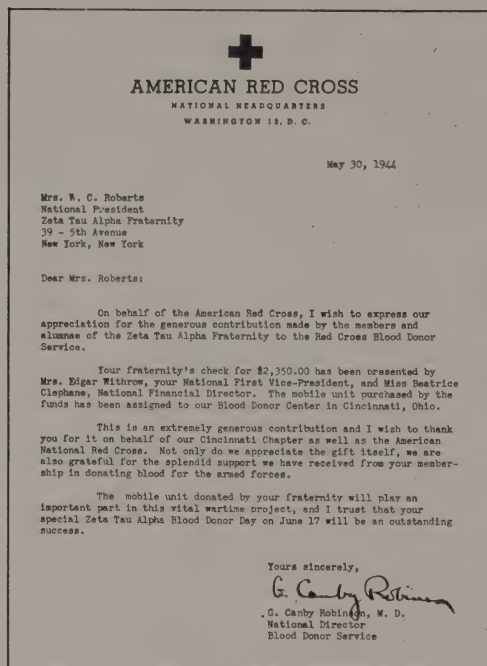
In response to the urgent call of the Red Cross to meet the Army and Navy's request for 4,000,000 pints of blood in 1943, Zeta Tau Alpha mobilized its entire membership in October, 1943, for a blood donor campaign,<sup>69</sup> which became the fraternity's birthday project for that founding month, as well as a continuing program through 1944.<sup>70</sup> In this fraternity-wide move on Zeta's

forty-fifth anniversary, each Zeta was asked to contribute blood or support the project financially. This was the first time that a national Greek-letter fraternity for women organized its membership on so extensive a scale for blood donor donation or support.<sup>71</sup>

Reminding the membership that it was within their power to give the gift of life itself, *Themis* poignantly pointed out that

In other wars, generations of civilians backed their fighting men with money and equipment. They, like us, lavished honor and words of appreciation and high praise for their bravery. But to the wounded and dying they gave—since they had nothing more to give—their tears.

Today, though, we can give what former generations could not. We can give life itself—through blood plasma, the modern miracle which has already saved the lives of thousands of our fighting men.



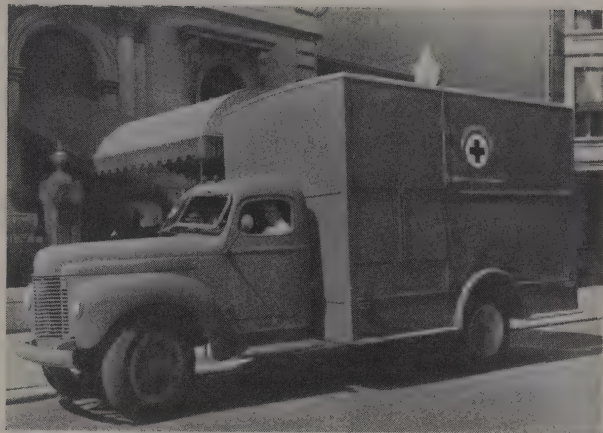
Those who gave financial support made possible a fund\* which, when combined with individual and chapter donations,<sup>72</sup> purchased the Mobile Blood Donor Unit presented to the Red Cross in memory of the President who, but a few short years before, had herself sounded the first call to service for the war effort.

June 17, 1944—the day<sup>73</sup> on which the presentation-dedication ceremonies were held in Cincinnati's Garfield Park—"was nationally proclaimed as Zeta Blood Donor Day."

Since the Cincinnati Blood Donor service extended over a large area of Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky, a Tri-State Zeta day was arranged. Zetas from the three states came for the ceremonies.

\* The Zeta Tau Alpha Service Fund—Blood Donor Unit.

ON THE SIDE OF THE TRUCK the words, "Presented by Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity" identified the unit to those who saw it on its regular rounds. Inside, the dedicatory plaque read, "Presented by Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity in memory of Louise Kettler Helper."



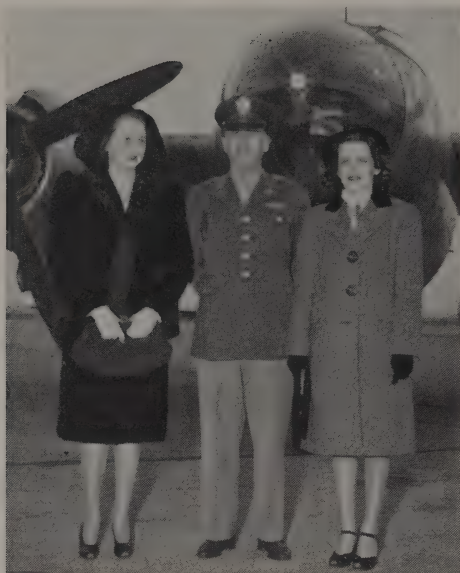
REPRESENTING Zeta Tau Alpha, Lucile Reece Roberts presented the keys and dedicatory plaque to Dr. Carl A. Wilzbach, chairman of the Cincinnati Red Cross Blood Donor Service. Looking on, at the left, is Harold Hill Helper, husband of Louise Kettler Helper, in whose memory the unit was donated. Willard Crain, director of the Cincinnati Red Cross Blood Donor Service is at the far right.

One hundred and sixty attended the Saturday luncheon which preceded the presentation. The guest list included Red Cross officials, Mr. Harold Helper, several national officers<sup>74</sup> and province presidents, the deans of women of the university, representatives of other N.P.C. groups and visiting and local Zetas, as well as the Cincinnati Mothers' Club.

Luncheon speakers were Mr. Willard Crain, director of the Cincinnati Blood Donor Center, and Mrs. W. C. Roberts, National President, who spoke of Louise Helper "and the fraternity's desire to give a gift in her memory that would typify her splendid character and attributes." During the afternoon the group was conducted through the Blood Donor Center in the Doctor's Building.

At four o'clock the keys to "the big brown truck which would bring life to so many . . ." were presented to Dr. Carl A. Wilzbach, chairman of the Cincin-





EDWINA MARTIN GRAVES, Colonel William B. Wright, commanding officer of Barksdale Field, and Mary Catherine Arthur Serra posed before one of the three medium bombers and one pursuit ship whose purchase was made possible by the Shreveport Alumnae's sale of \$496,000 worth of bonds. "The Army and Navy do not sanction dedicatory ceremonies," said *Themis*, "but decalcomanias on this bomber and three other aircraft carry the inscription: 'This Ship Was Bought by the Zeta Tau Alpha Alumnae of Shreveport, Louisiana.'"

nati Red Cross Blood Donor service, by Mrs. Roberts. In accepting them he stressed the importance and magnitude of the gift.

Then, "in the name of Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity" the President dedicated the unit, "To the living memory of Louise Kettler Helper." The dedicatory plaque presented to Dr. Wilzbach was "placed permanently" on the inside of the Bloodmobile. Thus, Zeta Tau Alpha honored the memory of a beloved leader, and made a significant contribution to the war.

Midstream in the war,<sup>75</sup> as 1944<sup>76</sup> was ushered in, the new President added this counsel:

As one of America's small but vital institutions, made up of clear thinking, alert women, Zeta, in her every-day existence, can be a force and influence if each member will use her educational opportunities and thereby be enabled to supply some of the trained leadership and mature guidance essential to meeting the complexities we all face.

Great vision will be necessary for the careful planning of time and effort. And, in determining what is necessary, what can be discarded temporarily or permanently, be sure of values; plenty of rest, good food, sound study habits, and carefully selected courses, some service, normal friendship and a bit of social fun are basic requirements.

Let us be far-sighted and practical in maintaining a fine balance of these values, and let us carry our share of the responsibilities with a unified spirit.

Individual members and chapters were active in all phases of work connected with the war effort. *Themis* featured a steady stream of Zeta non-military personnel engaged in a wide variety of war activities, and starting in 1942 the members in the services were regularly featured in the magazine. The *Themis* Service Roster<sup>77</sup> started in 1942. Indeed, the full story of Zeta Tau Alpha in World War II would be a book in itself.

**SERGEANT HENRIETTA WILLIAMS,** Psi, First Air WAC to receive the Air Medal, recipient of the Legion of Merit, first enlisted WAC in China and the only WAC in the CBI with flying status.



Alumnæ chapters<sup>78</sup> sponsored many worthy projects\* and programs. One chapter in particular made such an outstanding record that it is doubtful if any other similar Greek group excelled or equalled it. Through one project alone, the Shreveport, Louisiana, members sold \$496,000 worth of war bonds during the fifth war bond drive—which purchased three medium bombers and one pursuit ship. On the side of each plane was a decalcomania reading, “Purchased by the Zeta Tau Alpha Alumnæ of Shreveport, Louisiana.” Before that the Shreveport Zetas raised \$2,000 for a pavilion and patio addition to the U.S.O. building.

The actual count of reported Zetas who served in the armed forces is 240, but the number is thought to be much higher because, despite repeated blanks in *Themis* and requests for names and facts, many are probably yet to be found. Many were in foreign service—scattered to the four corners of the globe. And all service Zetas received from their fraternity a special paid-up membership card for the duration. The one gold star is for Lieutenant Helen Marlowe, Xi, of the Marines, who died shortly after the war ended.

The most decorated Zeta was Sergeant Henrietta Williams (Garcia),<sup>79</sup> Psi, the first enlisted WAC to land in China, and the possessor of one of the most outstanding military records among Greek-letter women in World War II. The first Air WAC in the China-Burma-India theatre to receive the Air Medal for Meritorious Service in Aerial Flight, she was the only Air WAC on flying status in that theatre. Recipient of the Legion of Merit, she flew over 100

\* Space limitations prevent detailing the long list.

missions when enemy aircraft was expected.<sup>80</sup> And those flights were over the treacherous "Hump" of the Himalaya Mountains.

In the tan leather War Service Book, arranged and inscribed by Lucile Mead Lamb, Upsilon, are the names of the Zetas who were in the services, compiled from *Themis'* records. The book<sup>81</sup> is a part of the Historical Exhibit shown at conventions.

In addition to heavy bond purchases by the national organization<sup>82</sup> in the United States and Canada,<sup>83</sup> the support of war projects by college<sup>84</sup> and alumnæ groups and individual members was actively promoted and encouraged.

Alumnæ dues for a time were payable in war savings stamps, and even the traditional birthday pennies contributed annually to the Golden Anniversary Fund were supplanted by fifty-cent war savings stamps during the critical years.

It was a world keyed to the uncertainties of war, rationing and a valiant attempt to surmount increasing and manifold handicaps. Then D-Day. Then June, 1945—the end in Europe. Then the atomic bomb, and soon after, the surrender of Japan in August.

Zeta Tau Alpha had lived through three wars\* and served its country well.

## *Zeta Tau Alpha Service Roster*

### **Gold Star**

Helen Marlowe, Captain, Xi,  
U. S. Marines

### **Outstanding Awards**

Henrietta Williams (Garcia) Air WAC, Psi, Legion of Merit and Air Medal.  
Marjorie Spence, Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps, Associated Royal Red Cross Medal.  
Dr. Rose C. L. Mooney, Beta Kappa, "acclaimed a great physicist" and head of the department of physics at Sophie Newcomb College in New Orleans, had an important part in the development of the atomic bomb. On August 6, 1945, she was awarded a certificate "in appreciation of effective service," attesting that she had "participated in work essential to the production of the atomic bomb, thereby contributing to the successful conclusion of World War II." It was issued by the United States War Department, Army Air Forces—Corps of Engineers, Manhattan District.

### **WACS**

Jane Anderson, Alpha Tau  
Jane Andrews, Lieutenant, Alpha Tau  
Barbara Barakat (Terwillinger), Corporal, Beta Beta  
Chesley Virginia Barnes, Third Officer, Epsilon  
Martha Jeanne Bayer, Alpha Phi  
Dollie Carpenter, Psi  
Phyllis Chandler, Alpha Sigma  
Marion E. Cope, Lieutenant, Beta Beta  
Patricia Dugan, Alpha Upsilon  
Helen Durr, First Lieutenant, Beta Xi  
Mary Gray Ellis, Alpha Nu  
Barbara Embree, Alpha Omicron  
Nan Everhart, First Lieutenant, Alpha Beta  
Esther Fox, Sigma  
Caryl Francis Gaines, First Lieutenant, Alpha Xi  
Gail Gaines, Lieutenant, Alpha Mu  
Catherine Glasgow (Barnett), Captain, Nu  
Evelyn Greer, Corporal, Alpha Omicron  
Jeanne Hart, Lieutenant, Alpha Phi  
Martha Hart, Alpha Zeta  
Sarah W. Hawkins, Private First Class, Nu

Margaret Jane Howes, Sergeant, Beta Tau  
Geneva Johnson, Sergeant, Beta Upsilon  
Ann Helen Kveton, Alpha Kappa  
Lucille T. Long, Lieutenant, Chi  
Mary Macklin, Alpha Tau  
Clara Magee, Captain, Alpha Psi  
Dorothy Mangels, Sigma  
Lois Carolyn Masingil, Sergeant, Nu  
Virginia McCloud, Sergeant, Beta Chi  
Mary Kathryn Metz, Alpha Pi  
Helen Minor, T/3, Gamma Alpha  
Gladys Munson, Alpha Sigma  
Patricia E. Nichols, Private First Class, Alpha Pi  
Helene Novak, Beta Eta  
Pauline Pfeifer, Beta Chi  
Grace J. Polk, Lieutenant, Kappa  
Goodwill Post, Alpha Phi  
Ethel M. Powell, Staff Sergeant, Alpha Beta  
Violet May Reynolds, Sergeant, Alpha Xi  
Camilla Satterthwaite, Beta Epsilon  
Loretta Schweitzer (Shoemaker), Alpha Zeta-Beta Delta  
Martha Wills Todd, Beta Epsilon  
Carol M. Vandenburg, Beta Kappa  
Margaret Walcut, Third Officer, Alpha Omega

\* The Spanish-American war of 1898, and World Wars I and II.



Henrietta Williams (Garcia),  
Sergeant, Psi  
Elizabeth L. Woolfolk, Phi  
Clara Louise Wright, Alpha Zeta

## WAVES

Ann Abbott, Lieutenant (j.g.),  
Alpha Beta  
Jane Chilton Adams (Phillips),  
Beta Sigma  
Marion Allen, Alpha Gamma  
Dorice Ames, Ensign, Upsilon  
Lois R. Anderson, Chi  
Lucy Jean Anderson, Ensign,  
Alpha Chi  
Dorothy L. Babcock, Lieutenant,  
Beta Tau  
Anita Baukus, Ensign, Alpha  
Gamma  
Betty Jane Bergstresser (Mc-  
Craffrey), Alpha Gamma  
Janet Birdsell (Dickey), Ensign,  
Alpha Pi  
Alice Boyer, Chi  
Dorothy L. Bromley, Lieutenant  
(j.g.), Alpha Gamma  
Ruth Mary Buckley, Beta Tau  
Martha Caldwell, Lieutenant  
(j.g.), Beta Upsilon  
Doris Campbell, Y 2/C, Alpha  
Upsilon  
Ramona Chapman (Henricks),  
Tau  
Edith Chrisman, Zeta  
Elizabeth M. Clark, Y 3/C, Beta  
Xi  
Marjorie Cleland, Alpha Tau  
Maxine Gertrude Cody, Lieu-  
tenant (j.g.), Psi  
Sue M. Cole, Lt., Beta Omega  
Lois Cooley, Psi  
Lorno Cooper (Pickens), Alpha  
Pi  
Lorraine Corbett, Ph M 3/C,  
Beta Phi  
Margaret A. Corum, Y 3/C, Beta  
Epsilon  
Mary Elizabeth Day (Caswell),  
Ph M 3/C, Omicron  
Elsie Jean Dennis, Beta Mu  
Pauline Ellen Dootson, Psi  
Petuna (Pat) Dunham, Lieutenant  
(j.g.), Beta Epsilon  
Verona Engelbreston, Alpha Tau  
Leola E. Fields, Alpha Omega  
Mary Louise Ford, Lieutenant  
(j.g.), Alpha Xi  
Merry Iris Frenz, Psi  
Camilla Gillette, Lieutenant, Beta  
Gamma  
Joyce Goforth (Kopp), Lieuten-  
ant, Alpha Kappa  
Mary Elizabeth Gough, Sp (T)  
3/C, Xi  
Betty Gougler, Alpha Kappa  
Cornelia Gray, Sigma  
Janet Gronemeyer, Sigma  
Marion J. Gronemeyer, Y 3/C,  
Sigma-Beta Chi  
Lois Jane Hainley, Ensign, Alpha  
Pi  
Elaine Harris, Ensign, Alpha Phi  
Lois R. Henderson, S K 3/C,  
Chi  
Eleanor Patricia Hickman, Beta  
Alpha  
Charlotte Hopper, Psi

Kathryn Howes (Bennett), Lieu-  
tenant, Beta Tau  
Margaret Ann Hutchinson, En-  
sign, Beta Gamma  
Irene Isherwood, Omicron  
Aletha J. Kistler, Beta Beta  
Ruth Klein, Alpha Beta  
Elizabeth Knight, Lieutenant  
(j.g.), Beta Epsilon  
Frances Lingles, Beta Gamma  
Judy Lisse, Beta Phi  
June R. Lisse, Beta Psi  
Sophie Lowe, Lieutenant, Zeta  
Lorraine O. Lozier, Xi  
Margaret MacDonald, Beta Phi  
Mildred McFall, Lieutenant Com-  
mander, Kappa  
Martha E. McGinnes, Lieutenant  
(j.g.), Beta Psi  
Helen McGowan, Y 3/C, Alpha  
Alpha  
Mary Montfort, Psi  
Mary Montgomery (Kerr), En-  
sign, Omicron  
LaVerne Offen, Alpha Mu  
Barbara Pennington, Beta Zeta  
Dorothy Rankin, Alpha Omicron  
Caro Ida Reese, Ensign, Beta Mu  
Nellie I. Renegar, Ensign, Alpha  
Nu  
Josephine Renzi, Beta Epsilon  
Louise Rice, Beta Gamma  
Grace Richards, Ensign, Chi  
Marjorie L. Riddle, Alpha Tau  
Thelma Jean Ritchey, S 1/C,  
Sigma  
Beryl Roberts, Ensign, Beta Mu  
Laurette Ryan, Phi  
Cylva Grace Scanlon (Fisher),  
Ph. Mate 3/C, Alpha Iota  
Ruth E. Schabacker, Lieutenant  
(j.g.), Beta Beta  
Georgia Schofield (Cooper), Lieu-  
tenant (j.g.), Beta Epsilon  
Adelaide Scott, Beta Phi  
Eloise Scott (Douin), H.A. 1/c,  
Tau  
Eleanor Sowers, Alpha Upsilon  
Norma E. Spealman, Ensign,  
Beta Upsilon  
Marion Stewart, Lieutenant, Beta  
Alpha  
Evelyn Stump, Ensign, Beta  
Gamma  
Jane F. Taylor, Ensign, Alpha  
Eta  
Dorothy Helen Thompson, Lieu-  
tenant (j.g.), Beta Epsilon  
Leona Thorne, AMMI 2/C, Al-  
pha Rho  
Mary Louise Van Horn (Billow),  
Sp (y) 2/C, Zeta  
Joan Ward, Alpha Gamma  
Frances Waterhouse, Beta Gamma  
Dorothy Jane Webster, Sigma  
Helen Weideli, Chi  
Melva Werlinick, Chi  
Vee White (Donahue), Lieuten-  
ant (j.g.), Alpha Kappa  
Frances A. Wooten (Limmer),  
Lieutenant (j.g.), Beta Psi  
Effie Louise Wyatt, Ensign, Mu

## Marines

Peggy Brown (Schneider), Ser-  
geant, Alpha Xi  
Ruby Jane Brown, Sergeant, Al-  
pha Iota

Mary Alice Byrne, Corporal, Beta  
Epsilon  
Barbara Dennis, Private First  
Class, Alpha Chi  
Helen Eloise Dodd, Corporal,  
Gamma Epsilon  
Martha Gardner, Upsilon  
Florence D. Harper, Alpha Phi  
Patricia Hole, Psi  
Emma Horney, Kappa  
Grace Ingersoll (Smith), Ser-  
geant, Mu  
Barbara J. Johnson, Corporal,  
Beta Psi  
Bonnie Jean Kelley, Sergeant,  
Alpha Mu  
Billy Ohl, Alpha Pi  
Sarah M. Oliver, Second Lieu-  
tenant, Chi  
Marjorie de Pourtales, Beta Pi  
Beverly Simmons, Beta Xi  
Betty Sisler, Private First Class,  
Beta Xi  
Marian Virginia Smith, Sergeant,  
Mu  
Alice Martha Timanus (Dorn),  
Lieutenant, Gamma Alpha  
Julia S. Woll, Sergeant, Alpha  
Beta  
Bonnie Wright (Crawford), Tech-  
nical Sergeant, Xi

## SPARS

Ruth Danforth, Mu  
Nancy Donaldson, S.K. 3/C  
Betty Evans, Psi  
Janet T. Hallock, Lieutenant  
(j.g.), Chi  
Kathryn Hincley (Martin), Lieu-  
tenant (j.g.), Psi  
Martha Kupfer, Ensign, Alpha  
Rho  
Pat McAneney, Xi  
Kathryn A. Phillips, Ensign,  
Kappa  
Constance Reddig Seelinger,  
Gamma Epsilon  
Helen Reich, Lieutenant, Alpha  
Alpha-Alpha Omicron

## Medical\*

Barbara Jeanne Bilson (Wallink),  
First Lieutenant, Alpha Eta  
Betty Boehm, Dietitian, Beta Up-  
silon  
Nan Brown, Nurse, Gamma  
Epsilon  
Vivian Ruth Charno, Ensign,  
Sigma  
Elizabeth Day (Fleege), Lieuten-  
ant, Alpha Delta  
Virginia Donnell, N. Nurse, Psi  
Mary Elizabeth Emery (Grote-  
fend), Instructor Nurse, Sigma  
Helen Farmer, Aide, Lambda  
Janet Fretz, Lieutenant, Beta  
Phi  
Lelia Marie Hendricks, Captain,  
Alpha Gamma  
Nelda M. Johnson, Lieutenant,  
Alpha Xi  
Nadina Leitch, Nurse, Beta Phi  
Dorothy MacKinnon, Lieutenant,  
Psi  
Jacquelin Nave, Lieutenant,  
Lambda

\* All nurses started with the rank of Second Lieutenant. Even though not given when listings were sent in, it is therefore assumed that the nurses listed here started with that rank.

Mary A. Patterson, Lieutenant,  
Beta Phi  
Kathryn Porter (McBeath),  
Nurse, Gamma Epsilon  
Etta Louise Ryden, Lieutenant,  
Alpha Omicron  
Adelle I. Strasselle, First Lieu-  
tenant, Dietitian, Beta Delta  
Mary Eleanor Wells, Nurse, Beta  
Omega  
Dee Yoho (Eldridge), Nurse,  
Theta

### Canadians

Margaret Blake (Gibson), Lieu-  
tenant CWAC  
Eleanor Brown, Sergeant CWAC  
Helen Miller (Linford), Cypher  
Clerk to Rear Admiral, Royal  
Navy West Africa  
Helen Zoe Ruthven, Lieutenant,  
WD, RCAF, England  
Marjorie Spence, Lieutenant  
RCAMC, England, Italy

### Red Cross

Gloria Foe Alexander, Alpha Pi

Linden N. Anderson, Kappa  
Bernice E. Barnett, Alpha Rho  
Elizabeth Bell (Smith), Beta  
Gamma  
Elsie Beschorner (Scharff), Beta  
Eta  
Hazel Branigan (McCraith), Beta  
Theta  
Mary Sue Burcham, Lambda  
Louise Calvelage (McGinley),  
Alpha Delta  
Lorraine Cansler (Lieurance),  
Alpha Upsilon  
Joanna Durham, Upsilon  
Harriet Evans, Alpha Omicron  
Rose Flaherty, Beta Mu  
Virginia Good, Beta Xi  
Margaret Grimes, Alpha Zeta  
Eleanora Gundlach, Phi-Alpha Phi  
Harriet Heller, Alpha Zeta  
Wilma Horney (Tiedemann), Xi  
Betty Porter Jones, Beta Epsilon  
Virginia Lytle, Phi  
Isabel Matheson, Omicron  
Mary May, Zeta  
Jane Meadows, Beta Phi  
Esther Morgan, Alpha Psi  
Gertrude Munsell (Hauf), Beta  
Xi-Alpha Psi

Dorothy Petersen (Grimmell),  
Alpha Tau  
Florence Rick, Phi  
Jane Anne Shuttleworth, Beta  
Phi  
Elaine Stradling, Beta Alpha  
Mary Teresi, Beta Pi  
Marjorie Thacker, Alpha Tau  
Katherine Trimble, Beta Tau  
Catherine Tritle, Phi  
Doris Tritle, Phi  
Mary Charlotte Wales, Upsilon  
Kathleen Watkins (Dale), Phi  
Betty Lou Welch, Sigma  
Adelaide Woodley, Beta Alpha

### U.S.O.

Marian Ruby King (Himes),  
Alpha Upsilon, Canteen Service  
—Second and Fifth Marines—  
Hawaii  
Ruth B. Hurt (Franklin), Honor-  
ary Captain, Upsilon. Concert  
Division. Concert singer. Over-  
seas tour in combat area. Toured  
New Guinea, Dutch East In-  
dies, Philippines, Admiralties.

## The Chinese Scholarships

"In response to the great need for educated women as leaders in China's new social order," the Fall, 1944 *Themis* said, "Zeta Tau Alpha announces the establishment of one or more scholarships at Ginling Woman's College,<sup>85</sup> as a post-war contribution to peace and the educational world."

Zeta's Chinese Scholarships—another war service project—operative through 1944 and 1945, sought to help the women in a country long torn by war. Adopted at the summer National Council meeting, by fall the enthusiastically received and well launched project was in full swing.<sup>86</sup> All contributions were "purely voluntary."

Its success was assured when Geraldine Townsend (Fitch), Beta Tau, eminent authority on the Far East, who knew Ginling College from years of association, generously agreed to speak before Zeta-sponsored affairs along the route of her winter and spring speaking tour for Rotary International.

Alumnæ groups in Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Antonio, Seattle, Washington, D.C., Little Rock, Arkansas, New York City, South Bend, Indiana, Austin, Texas, Columbia, South Carolina, among others, presented her at large silver teas or similar functions which included a galaxy of notables, from local figures of prominence to former cabinet ministers' wives and Chinese dignitaries. For a succession of issues *Themis* carried stories of functions.

Groups not along Mrs. Fitch's route were encouraged to sponsor a local speaker well informed on China, "especially the educational aspects," while Zetas in unorganized areas made personal contributions.

All this culminated in the presentation of a check<sup>87</sup> for \$1,000 to Dr. Wu Yi-fang at a gala reception and tea held at the Berkeley chapter house on May

20, 1945, when Ginling's president was attending the San Francisco meeting of the United Nations. The only woman member of the Chinese delegation, her presence in California was considered to be "a stroke of luck for the Zetas in that area, to whom fell the honor of presenting Zeta's check to Dr. Wu personally." Because "of the enormous inflation in China," \$1,000 approximated \$400,000, sufficient to provide scholarships for several Chinese girls. Dr. Wu administered the fund.<sup>88</sup>

As the Alumnæ Director said in her 1946 report, "the Chinese Scholarships . . . struck a responsive chord with the alumnæ," and in the brief period that the project was sponsored it was highly successful.

Geraldine Fitch was presented with a life membership "in appreciation of her outstanding contribution," and in 1945 National Council announced that "any money raised this year for the Chinese Scholarship Fund will be presented to Ginling College . . . in Mrs. Fitch's name." And it was.

### *The Plaque Dedication*

At four o'clock, near the sunset hour, exactly fifty years from the day of the fraternity's founding, Zeta Tau Alpha's beautiful commemorative plaque was dedicated in the historic Rotunda of the Virginia State Teachers College.\*

It was the final Virginia homecoming event that brought the golden anniversary year to a climactic close on a week end of dazzling autumn beauty. Said *Themis*: "Guests arrived in autumn sunshine and left in autumn sunshine. There was never a cloud. It was all blue skies, red-gold sunsets, then a blue velvet night-sky and stars. Virginia smiled her warmest."

For several days the Zetas had been assembling. Arriving on Wednesday, October 13, were the National President and the National Historian† who chose the plaque's final location. Under the watchful supervision of the president of the college, Dr. Dabney V. Lancaster, it was in place by Thursday, and "lovely it was," *Themis* said later. The blue and gray satin covering was gracefully arranged by the head of the college's art department.

Thursday saw other arrivals. The Council members' table in the Weyanoke Hotel's dining-room began enlarging. That evening, as groups gathered, there were reminiscences, stories, retold romances . . . with tall vases of beautiful

\* The name was changed to Longwood College the following spring.

† During a post-convention trip to Farmville, the National Historian discussed plans and made preliminary arrangements with the college and local Zetas for this October observance. The trip, however, had another important mission, for at that time the fraternity's check for \$500 was presented to Dr. Lancaster as a donation to the Jarman Memorial Organ Fund in recognition of the college of Zeta's birth, and further honoring the Founders.



## ZETA TAU ALPHA

## DEDICATION

of the  
Fiftieth Anniversary Plaque  
on  
Friday, the Fifteenth of October  
Nineteen hundred forty-eight  
at four o'clock

## THE ROTUNDA

Virginia State Teachers College  
Farmville, Virginia

## PROGRAM

- Presiding: Mrs. Ross Pressley Strout  
National Historian • Editor
- Invocation—Reverend Plummer Jones  
West Hanover Presbytery
- "Fifty Years Ago"—Mrs. Ross Pressley Strout
- Unveiling of the Plaque—  
"Golden Years"—Miss Helen Harrison  
National President
- Response for the Founders—Miss Alice Bland Coleman
- Acceptance of the Plaque—Dr. Dabney S. Lancaster  
President of the College
- Benediction—Reverend Plummer Jones

gladioli from Jessie Whitmore Booker's garden adding their loveliness. Next morning the registration desk was manned by Alpha members, Minnie Blanton (Button), Carrie Kyle (Baldwin) and Martha Blanton. Registrants received small gold-ribbon bows.

The Founders, who were guests of the college, had the thrill of staying again in the halls of their Alma Mater. "Cammie" and Fannie Smith roomed together, just as they used to do, and the Colemans were also together—as in college days. Joining Council members for their meals, they had Zeta escorts to and from their rooms. Meanwhile, other Thursday Alpha arrivals sought out their old rooms and had a rewarding time talking to the 1948 occupants.

A perfect prelude to the Friday afternoon dedication was the luncheon *en famille* at lovely Longwood<sup>89</sup> estate. Seated at the speakers' table were the five Founders, the four Council members present, and Catharine Bingler Beverley, Delta, a past Grand President. The autumnal table decorations of yellow chrysanthemums in white tureens were Jessie Booker's arrangements. Clair Woodruff Bugg, local chairman, acted as the official hostess and welcomed the group<sup>90</sup> to Farmville. Miss Harrison responded. Later, when pictures were taken for the photographic record, a giant holly tree and towering boxwood offered unusual backdrops of great beauty.



NOT ALL OF THEM but nine of the Alpha members present at Farmville on October 15. This picture was taken after the luncheon. Left to right are: Alice Bland Coleman, Clair Woodruff Bugg, Ethel Coleman Van Name, Mary Campbell Jones Batte, Della Lewis Hundley, Mary Frayser McGehee, Janie Crute Traywick, Minnie Blanton Button, Ada Miller Carter.

### The Sunset Ceremony

Across the threshold of the white-columned building that had known the tread of many generations came the invited guests, faculty, friends and relatives to join Zeta Tau Alpha in this sentiment-laden twilight ceremony.<sup>91</sup> The sunset's last slanting rays glided through the windows. Programs, given out at the main entrance and hallway entrances by visiting undergraduate Zetas, were quietly studied. There was the stillness of reverence for a never-to-come-again occasion.

For fifty years, this moment had been in the making. For the five earliest Zetas sitting quietly, reflectively, in the section reserved for them, it was *their* moment—theirs to see their names inscribed in the permanent glory of bronze.

To the left, facing the door, shimmering folds of turquoise blue and steel gray satin gleamed softly above the tall baskets of tall yellow chrysanthemums that formed a floral guard of honor.

Then the ceremony began. The National Historian,<sup>92</sup> who was in charge of the dedication, presided.

The boy of 1898 who played a vital part in the organization of Zeta Tau Alpha, was, fifty years later, the minister who gave the twilight invocation

that opened the ceremony—the Reverend Plummer Jones, a retired minister of the West Hanover Presbytery. For the devoted brother of Zeta's first President\* the occasion held a depth of meaning, and nothing could have been more fitting than his participation in this dedication service.



**THE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS.** Left to right: President Dabney S. Lancaster, who accepted the plaque for Longwood College; Miss Helen Harrison, National President, who dedicated and unveiled it; Miss Alice Bland Coleman, who responded for the Founders; Reverend Plummer Jones, who gave the invocation and benediction; Mrs. Ross Pressley Strout, National Historian and Editor of *Themis*, who was in charge of the dedication, and who presided.

Opening the program, the past fused with the present as the National Historian covered the high lights of "Fifty Years Ago." She said:

We are assembled here today to commemorate the founding of Zeta Tau Alpha in these halls, and to honor our Founders.

Autumn, with its fulfillment and abundant harvest, is an especially appropriate time for gratitude and rejoicing for its blessings, and for the quietude of retrospection. Autumn is also appropriate for a Zeta dedication, for Zeta Tau Alpha is October-born, and to many here, retrospection is, at this moment, a magic word, transporting them back into the land of fifty years ago—conjuring up mental pictures, vivid, unforgettable, of a college and Farmville vastly different from that of today.

Some are remembering when their eager young lives were a thrilling part of the *then* State Female Normal School, when the unbounded faith of youth made all things seem possible, and

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\* In one of her early speeches Maud Jones said of him, "I doubt if we would ever have been any more than a club, for of course we knew nothing of fraternity life, if it had not been for two young men who gave us great assistance." Plummer Jones was one of them.



when dreams were in the making . . . when the horse and buggy pursued an undisputed course on the dirt roads that surrounded the campus of that day . . . when there were fireplaces in the rooms, and they were *used* . . . when professional training for women was more unusual than usual, and *they* were in the vanguard . . . when skirts swept the ground and it was the height of affluence to escort a guest who had just arrived on a train, to the school in a hack.

1898! Exactly fifty years ago ZTA came into being in the halls of this college, founded by nine daughters of Virginia, with humanitarian aims and awareness of their American heritage. They gave us large concepts—ideals sometimes hard to live up to, but beacon lights in the darkness of our ways. They gave a cherished fraternity affiliation to thousands of women, which, perhaps more than any other influence in their lives, emphasizes that life without ideals is meaningless.

Five of the nine we are honored and grateful to have with us today, as we are the Reverend Plummer Jones, who is mentioned in early minutes of the fraternity as “our brother in Zeta Tau Alpha, Plummer Jones, who has done so much for us.” In these records we see Plummer Jones collaborating earnestly on the early organization of the fraternity with his sister, Alice Maud Jones, leader of the Founders, and ZTA’s beloved first President. Later, no young reporter ever put his heart into a story more than did Plummer Jones when ZTA was chartered by the legislature of Virginia, in 1902. A member of the staff of the Richmond *Times-Dispatch*, he wrote a story which his sister’s fraternity still cherishes. Zeta Tau Alpha feels a deep sense of gratitude for his participation in today’s program.

Fifty years! Fruitful, successful possibly beyond the highest hopes of the Founder-dreamers and their supporters. From nine members in these halls, on this day fifty years ago, to 22,000. From nine Zeta shields worn just in Virginia, to Zeta shields worn all over the world. From one chapter here in Virginia to today’s long chain of college chapters representing the eighty-one charters granted in the United States and Canada since the gold link of Alpha chapter was first forged here.

Years of successful working together. Years of helping others, with the goal of being a force for good in the lives of the members, and the world. Then the achieving of the half-century mark and the turning of all eyes toward Virginia.

Zeta Tau Alpha is proud of its birthplace at this splendid college, and it is proud of its heritage as a Virginia-born organization. It is grateful to, and proud of, the gracious ladies we claim as our Founders.

Starting with the golden anniversary in June, at Virginia Beach, 1948 has been a year of homecoming. And now, at this sunset hour, on the day observed and honored by Zeta chapters all over the country as Founders’ Day, we come to the climax of this Golden Jubilee year—the presentation to our Mother College of this commemorative plaque.

After her introduction, the National President, Miss Helen Harrison, touched briefly on the fruitage of the “Golden Years” before unveiling the plaque. She said:

It is most fitting that on the golden anniversary of Zeta Tau Alpha we return to the college where our fraternity was founded. This is an important milestone in the life of our organization. We are gathered in the Rotunda exactly fifty years to the day to pledge ourselves anew to the principles and ideals laid down by the Founders who established our Alpha chapter here in . . . 1898.

Just as our early members stressed helpfulness to others, Zeta Tau Alpha is proud of its service record. Our National Scholarship Fund, established in 1912, has loaned almost \$86,000, benefiting some 350 college women, both Zetas and non-Zetas. The Maud Jones Horner Scholarship was established in Farmville in honor of this institution . . . and our

first Grand President. We also have the Hopkins Fellowship at the University of Texas for the study of child welfare, and a fund to help Chinese girls at Ginling College, in Nanking. Furthermore, college and alumnae chapters maintain their own scholarships at colleges and universities throughout the country. Because Virginia was our founding state, in 1928 we chose to operate a Health Center in Currin Valley, Smyth County. Having faithfully served the mountain people there for eighteen years, at a time when no other health service was available, we found, in 1946, that we had fulfilled the need for our health services and accomplished our purpose."

At the present time our national service project is carried on in cooperation with the Cerebral Palsy Division of the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults. Funds have been appropriated for the publishing of an equipment brochure . . .

During these golden years the development of the individual member has been emphasized in our groups, stressing scholarship, service, and appreciation for the finer things of life. Leadership is encouraged within the group and by participation in campus activities, in order to prepare her for a fuller life later in the community, state, nation, and the world. She has been given a design for living so she will be able to make the most of herself and take advantage of her opportunities. Our standards program sets forth the right modes of conduct and the development of the characteristics of true womanhood, so that each member will be better able to carry out our motto, "Seek the Noblest," making it a part of her daily life.

Upon the strong foundation of our Virginia heritage has been built an organization that has grown into a membership of over 22,000, with eighty-one charter grants . . . and 150 alumnae groups.

Although our debt to the Founders cannot be adequately expressed in words, this plaque on which their names are engraved in bronze will remain a lasting symbol of our appreciation.

Then the satin curtain was drawn aside, revealing the gleaming commemorative plaque for the first time.

"As President of Zeta Tau Alpha," Miss Harrison said, "I dedicate and unveil this plaque in loving tribute to our Founders:

Maud Jones Horner

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Frances Yancey Smith   | Alice Bland Coleman |
| Ethel Coleman Van Name | Della Lewis Hundley |
| Ruby Leigh Orgain      | Mary Jones Batte    |
| Alice Grey Welsh       | Helen May Crafford  |

"In their honor, and to commemorate our golden anniversary, I feel privileged to present this plaque to the Virginia State Teachers College."

As the blue and gray satin folds fell softly to one side, the massive bronze plaque shone richly from its new home on a wall panel in the Rotunda, past which the passing parade of the college had moved, and would continue to move, unceasingly. With Zeta Tau Alpha's distinctive coat-of-arms at the top, the plaque bore an appropriate inscription\* and the names of the Founders.

\* The inscription on the specially designed plaque was prepared by the National Historian. The committee on design consisted of Miss Harrison, Mrs. Strout and Mrs. Jenkins. The plaque is considered outstanding in design, beauty and workmanship.

Accepting the plaque on behalf of the college, Dr. Lancaster said in part:

We wonder just what was in the minds of this little group of girls—five of whom are with us today—when they gathered to form this organization a half-century ago. No doubt they had friendship and good fellowship and high ethical standards in their minds. We question whether a single one could visualize then the possibilities for future growth and influence for good that existed in the foundation that they were laying.

This leads us to the thought that our every act may have far-reaching effects for good or evil upon the lives of those with whom we come in contact.

Fifteen years ago I lived across the street from the chapter house of a fine group of Zeta Tau Alphas located nearly a thousand miles distant from Farmville. I did not know then that State Teachers College was the birthplace of the fraternity, nor did I know I would ever be associated with the organization or with the college.

How far the influence of those Founders has spread! Through the years the members of Zeta Tau Alpha have implemented the ideals of friendship and service implanted here fifty years ago.

On behalf of the Board, the faculty and staff, the alumnae and the students, I accept with gratitude this beautiful memorial to its Founders and assure you that its presence on the walls of the Rotunda will be an inspiration to all who pass this way.

“The names of the Coleman sisters—Alice and Ethel—run through the founding story like a repeated theme,” the National Historian said, in presenting the Founders’ representative. For, “it was in their room, in the east wing, that the actual founding was discussed and formulated. And it was an incident connected with Alice Coleman that gave definite impetus to the final organization. Thus, it is especially fitting that Alice is the one the Founders have chosen to speak for them today.”

Standing very straight and in a clear, resonant voice that moved her audience, Alice Bland Coleman spoke to the assemblage gathered to pay tribute to the little band whose spokesman she was—after fifty years. For them she said:

The Founders of Zeta Tau Alpha salute you.

It is quite true that our eager flights of girlish fancy never took us to the heights on which our fraternity now stands in such security. So, in all fairness, we wish to render to



THE BRONZE COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE which occupies a panel on the north wall of the Rotunda of Longwood College.



Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and acknowledge our pride in the young women who carried and still uphold the torch we lit fifty years ago.

We only forged the first links, they have made the strong chain that binds us and gives Zeta Tau Alpha the national recognition accorded it today. To them we offer the accolade for such an achievement.

We accept from your hands this tribute in a spirit of humility, love and appreciation far beyond my ability to express.

We feel honored, indeed, to have the plaque placed here in the State Teachers College, where we spent many hours of work, fun, and of course, frustrations, which every student understands; here where our beloved fraternity lifted its infant head.

You have made this Golden Anniversary very wonderful for us.

Again the Founders of Zeta Tau Alpha thank you and bestow their blessings upon you.

Rising to close the program, the Reverend Dr. Jones first paid stirring tribute to the fraternity he had helped bring into being, and those he had watched build it through the years. Then, after a personal tribute, he pronounced the benediction. The dedication<sup>93</sup> was over.

During that brief interlude the outside world was a thing apart. Time seemed to stand still. Memories and emotions were stirred deeply for others, as well as the Founders. Slowly, the spell was broken. Slowly, speech was resumed. The corsages on their shoulders reminded the Founders that it was 1948, not 1898.

Said *Themis*: "The plaque gleamed softly on the wall panel above the baskets



THE PLAQUE had been dedicated and the shimmering turquoise blue and steel gray satin cover (seen at the left in the background) had been drawn aside when this smiling picture of the Founders was made by the photographer (a favorite with them) who had been taking pictures of them since June. Standing beneath the plaque after the dedicatory ceremonies are, left to right, Mary Campbell Jones Batte, Della Lewis Hundley, Alice Bland Coleman, Frances Yancey Smith, Ethel Lee Coleman Van Name.



"THE FIVE FIRST LADIES at the reception, eating their birthday cake, and relaxing after a long stand in the receiving line. They didn't know this picture was being taken," said *Themis*. "Every one loved it."

of tall yellow chrysanthemums, its bronze beauty and richness seeming already to possess a mellow graciousness. Many went up to admire and examine it more closely. Flash bulbs shot quick thrusts of light as group pictures were snapped to supplement those that were taken as the dedication progressed. . . . Groups chatted quietly . . . Then college girls again began coming through the halls at which detaining Zeta sentinels had stood during the ceremony, for the plaque's location is in the direct path of through traffic" from one wing to another. Dusk settled. The plaque, so recently the center of attraction, had had its brief moment of glory. Henceforth, it was Zeta's silent sentinel of the past.

Later, at the hotel, there was a small family dinner for the Founders, Alpha members, and Dr. Jones and Mrs. Jones.

### The Reception

That night, from nine to ten-thirty o'clock,\* some 275 people attended the golden anniversary reception which was held in the spacious, high-ceilinged Student Lounge of the college.

\* The reception followed a concert by Miss Henrietta Schumann, world-famous pianist, which the Zetas attended as the guests of the college, upon the gracious invitation of Dr. Lancaster. Miss Schumann later attended the reception. From the auditorium it was just a few steps along the brightly lighted colonnade, with its statue of Joan of Arc, to the Student Lounge. The auditorium was in the building that burned a few months later.



The attractiveness of the room, beautifully decorated with flowers and autumn foliage by the Farmville Zetas, was further enhanced by a colorful basket of yellow-toned flowers, carrying out the anniversary motif, sent by the College Panhellenic. Dominating the scene was a three-tiered birthday cake (with gold leaves and gold trim, bearing the dates "1898-1948") which stood proudly on its own lace-covered, candle-lighted table.

Invited guests included members of the faculty, representatives of student government and campus organizations, prominent townspeople, representatives from alumnae organizations of the college, campus sororities, Hampden-Sydney College, relatives and friends. Greeting guests at the door were Sarah Cole (Alexander), Phi, and Dorothy Longmire (Warlick), Zeta.



Before Helen Harrison cut the birthday cake at the reception.

In the receiving line were Mrs. J. Luckin Bugg (Clair Woodruff, Alpha), former National Secretary, who was the able chairman of local arrangements; Miss Harrison; Dr. Lancaster and Mrs. Lancaster; Mrs. Strout; Miss Ruth Gleaves, dean of the college; Mrs. W. C. Roberts, NPC Delegate; and Miss Wanda Garver, National Field Secretary.

In the Founders' receiving line, which was headed by Mrs. John C. Garnett (Grace Elcan, Alpha), of charter fame, were the Reverend Dr. Jones and Mrs.

Jones, and the five Founders present: Miss Smith, Mrs. Van Name, Mrs. Batte, Miss Coleman and Mrs. Hundley.<sup>94</sup>

Introducing guests to the Founders' receiving line were Mrs. J. W. McGehee (Mary Frayser, Alpha), from Reidsville, North Carolina, and Mrs. John Carter (Ada Miller, Alpha), of Norfolk, Virginia.

In planning the reception it seemed fitting for the Founders to have their own receiving line, "for it was almost certain that guests would want to stop, linger, and talk to them . . . And that is exactly what happened," said *Themis*.

Acting as hostesses were the Farmville Zetas: Mrs. Frank Grayson Baldwin (Carrie Kyle, Alpha); Mrs. Henry Button (Minnie Blanton, Alpha); Miss Martha King Blanton, Alpha; Mrs. John C. Garnett (Grace Elcan, Alpha); Mrs. Elliott Booker (Jessie Whitmore, Alpha); Mrs. Emmett R. Elliott (Dorothy Westbrook, Phi); Mrs. Edgar Johnson (Anna Lucille Smith, Delta). They were assisted by





GRACE ELCAN GARNETT, whose name is indelibly linked with the securing of Zeta's charter, headed the Founders' receiving line at the reception. Standing next to her is the Reverend Plummer Jones, who helped with the organization of the fraternity. Next in line are: Mrs. Jones (an honorary initiate and a graduate of Mary Baldwin Seminary), Miss Smith, Mrs. Van Name, Mrs. Batte, Miss Coleman and Mrs. Hundley.

the visiting Zetas. Background music was provided by a college pianist. A group of Zetas also entertained with fraternity songs.

Climaxing the evening was the cutting of the cake by the National President. The first slice went to Dr. Lancaster. And again bulbs flashed as the photographic record of Zeta Tau Alpha's golden anniversary events neared completion.

Recounting the charm of the hour, the National Historian wrote in the Golden Anniversary issue of *Themis*: "Reflecting the charm and friendliness of the college and Farmville, the reception, which marked the final 1948 honor bestowed upon the Founders, will always remain a cherished memory in the hearts of the honorees and their Zeta descendants—from the youngest (and *very* thrilled) collegiate members present from other chapters, to the early Alphas to whom it brought a surge of pride and a lump in their throats to see Zeta Tau Alpha once more assembled at Farmville."

With the departure of the last guest, Zeta Tau Alpha's fiftieth observance came to a close, and with it, the end of the golden anniversary year of events. For those who participated in it, "it will live always in memory with a heart-warming glow."

But surviving both memories and individuals, a plaque stands sentinel in Virginia.

Roster of Officers

1937-1939

Grand President .....Louise Kettler (Helper), *Kappa*  
Grand First Vice-President .....Elizabeth Steinhauer (Ott), *Beta Delta*  
Grand Second Vice-President .....Lucile Reece (Roberts), *Beta Gamma*  
Grand Secretary-Treasurer .....May E. Youngberg, *Alpha Phi*  
Grand Editor-Historian .....Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), *Tau*

1939-1941

Grand President .....Louise Kettler (Helper), *Kappa*  
Grand First Vice-President .....Lucile Reece (Roberts), *Beta Gamma*  
Grand Second Vice-President .....Helen M. Harrison, *Xi*  
Grand Secretary-Treasurer .....May E. Youngberg, *Alpha Phi*  
Grand Editor-Historian .....Shirley Kreasan Krieg (Strout), *Tau*

Field Secretaries were Shirley Baird (Rawlinson), *Beta Iota*, 1939; Martha Morrison (McLaughlin), *Alpha Kappa*, 1939-1940; Ella Waters (Pfau), *Phi*, 1939-1941; Dorothy Gibbons (Gross), *Gamma Epsilon*, 1940-1941; Margarethe Faulstich (Livesay), *Alpha Pi*, 1940-1941.

1941-1946

President .....{ Louise Kettler (Helper), *Kappa*, 1941-1943  
                                  { Lucile Reece (Roberts), *Beta Gamma*, 1943-1946

First Vice-President .....{ Lucile Reece (Roberts), *Beta Gamma*, 1941-1943  
                                  { Marion Jones (Withrow), *Upsilon*, 1943-1946

Second Vice-President .....{ Helen M. Harrison, *Xi*, 1941-1943  
                                  { Lavone Eilerts (Dooley), *Alpha Upsilon*, 1943-1945  
                                  { Treva Mae Allen (Seepe), *Alpha Zeta*, 1945-1946

Alumnæ Director .....{ Jane Carfer (Theobald), *Theta*, 1941-1943  
                                  { Helen Harrison, *Xi*, 1943-1946

Membership Director .....{ Billy Ruth Young (Rubottom), *Kappa*, 1941-1943  
                                  { Ella Waters (Pfau), *Phi*, 1944  
                                  { Virginia Wartman, *Alpha Rho*, 1944-1946

Secretary-Treasurer .....{ May E. Youngberg, *Alpha Phi*, 1941-1943  
                                  { Mary Kammerer (Brecht), *Chi*, 1943-1944  
                                  { Mildred McFall, *Kappa*, 1945 (3 months)  
                                  { Helen Winton (Jenkins), *Beta Theta*, 1945-1946

Editor-Historian .....{ Shirley Kreasan (Strout), *Tau*

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Field Secretaries .....  | { Ella Waters (Pfau), <i>Phi</i> , 1941-1943                  |
|                          | { Margarethe Faulstich (Livesay), <i>Alpha Pi</i> , 1941-1942 |
|                          | { Marion Wingate (Palin), <i>Zeta</i> , 1943-1945             |
|                          | { Patricia Sparling (Benn), <i>Beta Theta</i> , 1946          |
| Finance Chairman .....   | { Beatrice Clephane, <i>Beta Alpha</i> , 1941-1945            |
|                          | { Lavone Eilerts (Dooley), <i>Alpha Upsilon</i> , 1945-1946   |
| N.P.C. Delegate .....    | { Lucile Reece (Roberts), <i>Beta Gamma</i> , 1942-1943       |
|                          | { Dr. May Agness Hopkins, <i>Kappa</i> , 1943-1946            |
| Extension Chairman ..... | { Dorothy Gibbons (Gross), <i>Gamma Epsilon</i> , 1943-1945   |
|                          | { Marion Wingate (Palin), <i>Zeta</i> , 1945-1946             |

## 1946-1948

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| President .....             | Helen M. Harrison, <i>Xi</i>                              |
| First Vice-President .....  | Marion Jones (Withrow), <i>Upsilon</i>                    |
| Second Vice-President ..... | Treva Mae Allen (Seepe), <i>Alpha Zeta</i>                |
| Alumnæ Director .....       | { Marion Wingate (Palin), <i>Zeta</i> , 1946-1947         |
|                             | { Edith M. Thompson, <i>Beta Rho</i> , 1947-1948          |
| Membership Director .....   | Virginia Wartman, <i>Alpha Rho</i>                        |
| Secretary-Treasurer .....   | Helen Winton (Jenkins), <i>Beta Theta</i>                 |
| Editor-Historian .....      | Shirley Kresan (Strout), <i>Tau</i>                       |
| Field Secretaries .....     | { Patricia Sparling (Benn), <i>Beta Theta</i> , 1946-1947 |
|                             | { Wanda Garver, <i>Gamma Epsilon</i> , 1947-1948          |
| Finance Chairman .....      | Lavone Eilerts (Dooley), <i>Alpha Upsilon</i>             |
| N.P.C. Delegate .....       | Lucile Reece (Roberts), <i>Beta Gamma</i>                 |
| Extension Chairman .....    | { Lucile Reece (Roberts),* <i>Beta Gamma</i> , 1946-1947  |
|                             | { Helen M. Harrison, <i>Xi</i> , 1947-1948                |

\* The offices of N.P.C. Delegate and Extension Chairman were combined briefly, after which the President acted in the latter capacity.

## Supplementary Notes

1. This schedule provided for a three-year period before the 1948 convention, calling for conclaves in 1941, 1943, 1945 and 1948, with state days on the vacant years.
2. "Also," the President continued, "we were asked to give up our announced dates, July 9-12, 1944, to an organization essential to the war effort, and while we were offered a later date, we had no assurance that this, too, might not be taken at the last minute."
3. Helen Kagay Prophet, Alpha Gamma, former national officer, held this post in 1939, 1941, 1946 and 1948.
4. Appointive Council officers were appointed to take office on August 1 of the year following national convention.



5. The executive power of the fraternity was vested in the Executive Council, which became the authorized representative to act as trustees of the corporate body, performing all duties "authorized by the corporate charter granted by the state of Virginia." As directors of the fraternity they had "the usual administrative duties and powers."
6. In 1946 the combination of the offices of Editor and Historian was changed when the latter office became a non-Council post, but "a member of National Council may hold the appointment."
7. This applied to both National Council and Executive Council which met annually together, often a few days' Executive Council meeting preceding the larger meeting of National Council. Annual meetings were also specified for the Finance Committee.
8. The Custodian of Greek names was not listed after the May, 1939 issue of *Themis*.
9. The 1945 National Council meeting made this a committee of one, retaining the Scholarship Chairman only. The same was true of the House Advisory Committee.
10. There were four heads of Central Office during this decade. May Youngberg was succeeded by Mary Kammerer Brecht, who served from 1943-1944. Mildred McFall, who served three months in the fall of 1945, was succeeded by Helen Winton Jenkins in December, 1945.
11. Virginia Woodworth (Conley), Alpha Zeta, who met those high qualifications, served with distinction until after the 1939 convention.
12. Presented by the President, Lucile Roberts.
13. The 1948 convention made provision whereby college members left the chapter with fully paid-up life memberships.
14. But 1945 was expectedly "a difficult year for Field Secretary work," Lois Faulstich (Hays), Chapter Counselor, told the June National Council meeting. "There was an undermanned staff, the province presidents did not inspect, and the chapters [hardly] had adequate supervision in the field of inspection."
15. Reporting on the revision of the standards report [blanks] "last year," Marion Withrow, First Vice-President, explained in 1946 that "this method of grading, reporting, and checking on chapters is done by the province presidents and is successful in determining a chapter's progress and sustained gains from year to year."
16. Jane Carfer (Theobald), Theta, was the first to fill this post and prepare the fraternity examination under this title. She was also the first to inherit the title of Chairman of Fraternity Education. Margarethe Faulstich Livesay was the first chairman of the three-member Standards Committee of this period.
17. This committee, as all others by this time, was guided in its work by notebooks especially planned for them—the system generally in use after 1941. Taking office in 1944, Virginia Wartman's report to the next convention spoke of "simplifying the mechanics of rushing" by the rewriting of the chapter rushing chairman's notebook—the "first job on the docket." Next she "coordinated the SMC's notebooks" with those of the rushing advisers.
18. Said Marion Palin's 1946 report as Field Secretary: "Never before . . . have we had such large pledge classes. The practice of providing rushing help to every chapter whenever possible has had far-reaching and sustained results. This personal supervision . . . has improved rushing technique through rushing schools, insured carefully planned rushing programs . . . developed more effective personal rushing."
19. Divided equally between the General Fund and the Service Fund.
20. The "forging anew of the links of Epsilon, Alpha Alpha, Alpha Psi, Beta Lambda

and Beta Pi" was a point of rejoicing at the 1946 convention, these groups having been temporarily inactive for a short time during the war. "This has been in a sense an extension program," the President told the Indiana meeting. Alpha Theta was reactivated soon after.

21. "Reception in the fraternity world was wonderful," it was reported, with letters "received from other editors, deans, presidents, writers, executives, fraternity officers and many others—not forgetting our Zeta families, who are among *Themis*' most ardent readers."
22. Said the Editor at that time: "With [magazine] trends becoming more accented, no alert editor could fail to see that sooner or later, the transformation must come. To do it later, and follow others, has never been the policy of your Editor or *Themis* . . ."
23. The editor of a leading woman's magazine wrote: "My heartiest congratulations . . . *Themis* is a thoroughly workmanshiplike job . . . and also successful as a magazine of general interest rather than a mere house organ."
24. Recording some specifications: "The regulation size of *Themis* is 8½ x 11 inches. The size of the page is 41 x 55 picas, and with the exception of pages which are definitely display pages, the material is set in double column or triple column form, as required. The paper stock is 60-pound Calumet coated, for the text pages. A 65-pound Turquoise Hammermill has been used for the cover. . . ." *Themis*' saddle-wire binding allowed the magazine to lie flat when opened.
25. After the adoption of the new larger size, *Themis* was bound only every two years, the traditionally dark green book containing two complete volumes (of four issues each) instead of one.
26. "It has been a challenge to produce a new *Themis* on a still-limited budget," the Editor declared in 1939. *Themis*' circulation was then about the eighth largest of the twenty-three N.P.C. groups—"the next mailing list will be 10,000 or over. Our total membership is somewhere over 12,000," and *Themis* already had "one of the leading, if not *the* leading percentage of circulation in proportion to our total membership."
27. The Editor's 1939 report also mentioned that "another interesting point is the *Themis* life subscription rate. If information is accurate we are one of the few, if not the only group at present operating on a ten-dollar life subscription rate. Actuarial figures, given at the 1935 convention, showed that the minimum amount for a *Themis* life subscription, in proportion to the life expectancy of our members, was \$23.41.  
 "Our life subscription rate went into effect in 1923. There were 1,800 on the mailing list, of whom five or six were life subscribers . . . Today the mailing list has jumped from 1,800 to 10,000, practically all being life subscribers. . . ."
28. Since *Themis*' budget did not provide for super-issues "special authorization" was forthcoming from the Finance Committee, "whom the Editor furnishes regularly with detailed figures and tabulations."
29. Said the Finance Chairman in 1941: "In spite of rapidly rising costs of printing and a mailing list that is growing by leaps and bounds, our Grand Editor-Historian has continued to give us a magazine of which we are all very proud."
30. Three contemporaries adopted a similar size, but none had as yet "developed along the lines that *Themis* has," or "achieved the use of the modern type forms and typography. . . ."
31. Groups previously complying with the government's request were frozen at the level of paper consumption during the period of compliance. Those who had con-

tinued much as usual were more fortunate. Their paper allotment was frozen at that level. Thus—penalization for compliance.

32. "A memorial sketch of Mrs. Helper was prepared for both *Banta's Greek Exchange* and *Fraternity Month*," reported the Editor, as were sketches of Mrs. Davis.
  33. "Budgetary considerations," said the November-December, 1947 *Themis*, "were [also] determining factors in changing the frequency of college and alumnæ letters from twice a year to once a year, each."
- Continuing, readers were told that "the circulation of *Themis* increased nearly 3,000 (permanent names) from the Summer issue of 1946 to Summer, 1947, with the possibility of other added hundreds as scores of 'lost' Zetas are found . . . This circulation increase is triple the usual expectancy. Also, since the 1946 convention's adoption of a budget, printing costs have been, and are still, subject to mounting labor and paper costs. While there is still a paper shortage, the foregoing factors are about to outrun it."
34. The Editor issued the new *Themis Handbook and Rules of Style* this year.
  35. "The College World" became the new title for the college chapter letter section in 1942.
  36. The *Themis* mailing list was expected to reach the 20,000 mark in the next two years.
  37. The decade's largest Summer number.
  38. The Summer issues carried the following number of pictures: 1943-114; 1944-179; 1945-251; 1946-216; 1947-248; 1948-271.
  39. The ninety-six-page Golden Anniversary Issue (November-December, 1948) was the largest issue of the decade; a thirty-page wartime issue was the smallest.
  40. Staff changes listed in the January, 1938 *Themis* were: Nellie Chamberlain, Alpha Iota, Chapter Letter Editor; Beryl Williamson (Bergman), Beta Rho, Alumnæ Editor. By January, 1941, Katheryn Marriott, Alpha Omicron, had become Chapter Letter Editor, and that fall Lois Tapert (Dordon), Beta Tau, became Alumnæ Editor.
  41. Actually this meant the binding of 1,000 sets that were printed but not bound when the previous reprint was made.
  42. Continuing the success of the past, both *Chains* made a substantial profit.
  43. The newscast was handled by the Editor-Historian and her assistant, Ann Rees (Gorman), Alpha Kappa, with an assisting news-staff.
  44. The last issue of the *Zeta News Bulletin* was put out by Helen Jenkins in Central Office. Edith Thompson, appointed Alumnæ Director in September, 1947, took over after that.
  45. No prize was given because the winning name was suggested by a Council member, Virginia Wartman.
  46. Correspondence between officers working on the rushing booklet reveals that wartime paper and labor shortages presented difficulties.
  47. Said the October, 1941 *Link*: "Our supply of *Manuals for College and Alumnæ Chapters* is completely exhausted and it will be another year before we are ready to print a revised edition. Meanwhile, the notebook pages sent last year will serve as a substitute and we will send additional [ones] this year . . ."
  48. Shirley Kresan Strout.
  49. The fund for coorganizer scholarships was brought under the Scholarship Loan Fund in 1946.
  50. The Mississippi convention approved a National Project "for the purpose of aiding some individual chapter . . . The Executive Council to determine its nature."



51. The Texas fellowship is given for research, and is an outright gift. It is administered by the president of the university, the dean of the department of home economics, and Dr. Hopkins. Upon the death of the latter, the president of the fraternity will serve on the board.
52. See Supplementary Note 58 of the chapter on Conventions.
53. "In the beginning years of Health Center," Mrs. Richmond reiterated, "there was no public health work being done in Smyth county, but now the state and county health departments have been organized and together with the schools are conducting the various clinics and health services which Zeta Tau Alpha helped to initiate."
54. Said Anne Redmond: "Since Health Center, our philanthropic project of eighteen years' standing closed last year, we have had no single effort to which we have given our support as a national unit. The Virginia Dental Clinic was a worthy project to which we might lend a hand, many groups sponsored local philanthropies of their own choosing, such as cancer relief work, the Foster Parents program, et cetera, but efforts were not as effective as they might have been if all hands had been working at the same task."
55. In addition to the N.P.C. meetings, Zeta's Editor attended the N.P.C. Editors' Conference held in conjunction with N.P.C.
56. Mrs. Helper was chairman of the Regional VI Panhellenic Conference held some months later at the University of Louisiana. She also assisted in the planning of the conferences held at the University of Tennessee and the University of Texas, in which she participated.
57. Since it was a matter of routine for delegates to be assigned to various standing committees, no listing of such assignments has been attempted in this history.
58. Zeta's Editor-Historian, who was appointed by N.P.C. to direct the publicity for the 1941 Congress, was also asked to write the official account for the interfraternity magazines. This was the second time that this officer was appointed to direct the publicity of a Congress, the first time being at the Mississippi N.P.C. in 1935.
59. The "Fraternity Factors" section of the April, 1941, issue of *Banta's Greek Exchange* carried a picture and sketch of May E. Youngberg, Secretary-Treasurer. Lucile Reece Roberts, National President, was featured in the October, 1944, issue. *Fraternity Month's* "We Pause to Honor" section recognized Zeta's Editor-Historian in a December, 1939, sketch.
60. The Association of Executive Secretaries and Directors of Central Office was formally organized at this 1943 meeting.
61. Mrs. Roberts was appointed N.P.C. Delegate following her retirement as National President in 1946. That same convention made Dr. Hopkins President Emeritus.
62. Quoting from Charlotte Wheeler Verplank's story of the N.P.C. Editors' Conference: "At the Editors' dinner . . . presentation of a gift of silver jewelry was made to Shirley Kresan Strout in recognition of her years of service for Zeta Tau Alpha."
63. Said "The Editor's Desk" in the January, 1938 *Themis*: "We are often asked why Zeta Tau Alpha, along with a number of N.P.C. organizations, is known as a *fraternity*.

"Zeta pledges are taught that the word 'fraternity' was derived not from 'frater,' a Latin word, but from 'phrater,' which is bona fide Greek. 'Phrater' in Greek meant a member of a 'phratra,' which is a tribe, a group of blood relatives which could be composed either of men or women. From this word the Latin 'frater'

may have been derived, with its narrower meaning of 'brother,' and its application to men alone. But the word from which 'fraternity' comes is wider in scope.

"Sorority," derived from the Latin 'soror,' or 'sister,' is a recent growth, invented by a Syracuse professor for Gamma Phi Beta, and later adopted by several other women's groups as a distinctive name. However, while it has been accepted into our language as part of our currency of speech, its Roman roots are far younger than the Greek ones of 'fraternity.' It is also interesting that Phi Beta Kappa, the first Greek-letter fraternity, made the gracious choice of a word which women as well as men may use to describe their fellowship."

64. See the chapter on "Founding and Early Days" for a fuller delineation of these qualities.

65. Prepared by the National Editor-Historian.

66. For many years after the proclamation's inauguration in 1926, it was sent direct to the chapters, and printed in November *Themis*. By decision of the 1941 National Council meeting, however, *The Link* became the medium for transmitting the proclamation to the chapters in time for Founders' Day.

67. An outstanding pledge, Marilyn Kimball, Beta Delta, was the initiate at the 1948 convention.

68. Zeta Tau Alpha Week was authorized in 1946 after the November-December 1945 issue of *Themis* pioneered with the suggestion, "Why Not Zeta Tau Alpha Week?" The article said in part:

"Zeta Tau Alpha has long had a tradition against so-called 'informal initiation,' outmoded and childish Hell Week, or razzing practices which are neither in keeping with the dignity of the organization nor of college women."

The suggestion was made that "the period set aside . . . prior to initiation [be] designated . . . as a time to bring to full fruit the understanding, appreciation, regard and faith in our organization that has been instilled in each new member during the period of her pledgeship. It is a time of dignity and thought, climaxed by our unforgettable ritual. There is no time or place in this peace-building world for crudeness, vulgarity, roughness, or indignity, or for the youthful hazing that is characteristic of high school days. These went out with the silent movies and high buttoned shoes."

69. Marion Jones Withrow, First Vice-President, was Zeta's contact with the Washington, D.C. office of the Red Cross, with whom the blood donor project was worked out.

70. A letter from Dr. G. Canby Robinson, National Director of the Red Cross Blood Donor Service in the June, 1944, *Themis*, expressed appreciation for the hundreds of pints of blood donated through Zeta's efforts.

71. This was heavily promoted through *Themis*, *The Link*, national press releases and special bulletins.

72. Before 1944 the college chapters voted to allow part, or all, of the 1943-1944 convention fees to be used in conjunction with the purchase of the Mobile Blood Unit. "June 17," said the national press release, "also stood as a tribute to the college chapters which, when war times necessitated postponement of convention, voted the donation of their convention money (in full or in part) to the Red Cross for the Mobile Unit, as their further share in helping the war effort. The alumnæ also contributed, and many donations were made by individuals.

73. Mrs. Elliott Chapman, assisted by Cincinnati Alumnæ committees, was general chairman of the day's activities.

74. National officers were Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Withrow, Ella Waters (Pfau), Membership Director, and Marion Wingate (Palin), Field Secretary. Chapter Counselors present were Lois Faulstich (Hays) and Geralyn Baird. Province presidents were: Mrs. W. C. Popp, Delta; Mrs. James Gardner, Epsilon; Mrs. G. W. Tenner, Beta.
75. The closing of the foreign markets made opal-set badges impossible to get during the war—an interesting, but not vital side light.
76. By the winter of 1943 *The Link* indicated that “every chapter . . . has been affected in one or more ways by war conditions . . . the loss of members to matrimony or jobs, the high cost and shortage of food, the ‘help’ problem, the curtailment of social programs, accelerated college schedules, the rumors that various universities will be taken over by the government,” et cetera.
77. “As a timely news service and in connection with obvious history needs, the ‘Zetas In The Services’ section was inaugurated in 1942,” the Editor’s post-war report said, “and through that, one of the most important records of the war years has been assembled. The Editor followed the policy of writing to the Zetas in service, acting as a link between them and their fraternity, requesting stories and pictures and assuring them of Zeta’s pride in their war service. Letters went all over the world.”
78. January, 1942 *Themis* carried the first survey of alumnae war work. The October, 1943 issue had a listing of college and alumnae participation in various war activities.
79. The cover of January-February, 1946 *Themis* pictured General Stratemeyer pinning the Air Medal on Henrietta Williams (Garcia).
80. She “taught a top-secret type of navigation aid,” *Themis* said in 1946. She taught Loran navigation to the crews flying the treacherous route over the Hump, where mountains and weather were a greater menace than the enemy. She learned this navigational work in India.
81. Said the National Historian when the book was first exhibited: “Because, in spite of repeated calls, we feel sure there are other names which have not been sent, the book is arranged to accommodate additional names.”
82. By 1941 the fraternity had purchased \$12,500 worth of defense bonds—the \$10,000 purchase in 1944 was featured in *Themis* as the war bonds investment mounted.
83. Zeta Tau Alpha was one of the early subscribers in Winnipeg to Canada’s fourth Victory Loan Drive. Mrs. Robert Bruce (Melba Cumberland), alumnae president, presented the fraternity’s check for \$1,000. Edith M. Thompson, Beta Rho, was chairman of the Miss Canada Committee in Winnipeg.
84. The September, 1945 *Link* told chapter treasurers to send Central Office “by registered mail all war bonds owned by the chapter. Such bonds will be kept in the national safety deposit box, thereby preventing loss of them due to turnover of officer personnel, advisers moving to another location, et cetera . . .” The chapters complied and receipts were issued. The bonds are carried as assets on chapter audits.
85. At this time Ginling was one of four refugee colleges which were guests on the campus of the West China University in Changtu, the 1,600-mile trek having been forced when the Japanese armies advanced upon Nanking in 1937. The only Christian college in China supported interdenominationally, Ginling was founded in 1913 by a small group of American women who realized the need for educated women as leaders in the new social-economic order brought about in China by the 1911 revolution. Growing rapidly, Ginling was recognized as one of China’s most outstanding colleges for women.
86. Heavily promoted and carefully planned, a series of four October national press



releases comprehensively covered every phase of the project, speaker, college and planned functions. Collaborating on and coordinating the program was the Service Chairman, Mary Goodwin Williams, Alpha Xi, who, by good fortune, lived in Berkeley, California.

87. The cancelled check is in the Historical Collection.
88. A well illustrated feature story by Shirley K. Strout on the presentation of the check to Dr. Wu, and Zeta's Chinese Scholarships, appeared in the July, 1945 issue of *Banta's Greek Exchange*.
89. Longwood, the ancestral ante-bellum home of General Joseph Eggleston Johnston, of the Confederate Army, now belongs to the college. Located on the edge of Farmville, the rolling acres of the famous old estate are now a golf course. The house is a college recreation center. The interior and furnishings have been restored in period, and there are guest facilities. A number of Zetas enjoyed the experience of staying at Longwood.
90. Around the room, as each rose to identify herself, the out-of-town names included: Mrs. John Carter (Ada Miller), Alpha; Mary Power Farthing, Alpha; Mrs. J. W. McGehee (Mary Frayser), Alpha; Mrs. Paul Traywick (Janie May Crute), Alpha; Mrs. W. R. Beverley (Catharine Bingler), Delta; Mrs. H. A. Rist (Geraldine Kuntz), Alpha Delta; Eleanor Fleming (Alford), Alpha Kappa; Mrs. Lloyd Morse (Maxine Cody), Psi; Maxine Brown, Patricia Wright, Joan Sawyer, Annette Olt, Gamma Betas from Maryland; Mrs. J. C. Alexander (Sarah Cole), Phi, president of Alpha province. Mrs. F. A. Steinko (Elizabeth Orth), Beta Alpha, Mrs. Lynn Spencer (Mary Blair Anderson), Beta Gamma, Dorothy V. Rock, Beta Alpha, Mrs. George Neal (Pauline Kennedy), Beta Xi, Julia Watkins, Beta Alpha, Mrs. John F. Warlick (Dorothy Longmire), Zeta, from Washington, D.C. From Delta there were Janice Buys, Mary Sweeney, Frances Clements, Betty Page, Loretta Clark, Dorothy Mitchell, Betty Bradbury, Jyann Siragusa, LeWare Holden (president of the pledge class), and two other pledges, Carolyn Crites and Dolores Haskamp. Hope Vandever (Miller), Sigma, dean of women at Madison College, came from Harrisonburg, Virginia.
91. The Farmville observance received widespread notice in the Virginia press, and the Golden Anniversary Issue of *Themis* carried a full account of the plaque dedication. Before that, "at the request of the college's editor, the National Historian also prepared a seventeen-page article on Zeta Tau Alpha, which the editor of *The Rotunda* later placed in the college library as source material.  
 Covering six-and-one-half pages, the generously illustrated commemorative article, "Anniversary in Gold," by Shirley K. Strout, appeared in the May, 1949, issue of *Fraternity Month*. *Banta's Greek Exchange* carried a full account of the convention, while articles on "Down the Years" and the plaque dedication were written for the *Crown and Shield*.  
 In fact, starting with the golden anniversary convention and ending with the Farmville observance, Zeta Tau Alpha's golden anniversary year received nationwide mention.
92. The summer of 1948 saw intensive activity for those involved in the detail and organization of the observance. Said the National Historian's next convention report: "Placed in charge of the dedication by the National President, plans were drawn up, the necessary letters were written, details worked out," and the program formulated—"working closely with Miss Harrison, Mrs. Bugg of Farmville, and Mrs. Jenkins who had charge of issuing the dedication and reception invitations and printing the prepared dedication program."

93. All over the country on this day, the new Founders' Day service, written especially for the golden anniversary year, was given by chapters who also planned special functions to which faculty and community friends were invited. Many outstanding observances were held as the entire fraternity was united in re-dedication to ideals and thought to the Virginia dedication and the events supplementing it and complementing it.
94. Miss Crafford was unable to attend because of illness in the family, while Mrs. Orgain had the misfortune to break her leg just a few days before the dedication. Earlier in the day a wire was sent to Miss Crafford, and flowers were dispatched to Mrs. Orgain as assurances of the thoughts of those at Farmville.





9

*Supplement*

6



# The Chapters\*

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## The Reactivation of Alpha Chapter

**F**ORTY-THREE years after Zeta Tau Alpha left its home campus in Virginia, Alpha chapter was reactivated on February 25, 1949.  
Said *Themis*:

On January 20, 1949, following the chapel program, Dr. Dabney S. Lancaster, president of Longwood College, announced the return of Zeta Tau Alpha to the Farmville campus. . . .

It was a moment Zeta Tau Alpha had . . . looked forward to ever since Alpha chapter regretfully, but gracefully, relinquished its charter in 1906, in order that ZTA might become a member of the National Panhellenic Conference, and thus go forward as a national organization within the N.P.C. fold. . . . The relinquishment of Alpha chapter was necessary because, at that time, teachers colleges were not on the N.P.C. list of eligible fields. . . .

Then, in 1947, with the admittance into N.P.C. of the groups comprising the Association of Education Sororities, Farmville became an eligible field for N.P.C. fraternities. January 1, 1949,\*\* was set as the date upon which N.P.C. groups might enter.

The Farmville Zetas—many of whom had seen Alpha chapter become inactive—were all there to hear the chapel announcement. Wanda Garver, National Field Secretary, representing the national organization, sat on the platform.

“Following the chapel program,” *Themis* continued, Miss Garver and Miss Dunn “pledged twenty-four college girls and Miss Leola Wheeler, Mu Omega’s faculty adviser who, twenty-three years ago, helped found the group. This was one hundred per cent of all the Mu Omegas in Farmville.”

Alpha chapter’s reestablishment came about through the absorption of Mu Omega, a well-established, twenty-three year old local “organization on the campus of Longwood College.”

With installation set for February 25-26, “the following days were crowded with pledge training, preparations for rushing, and planning for installation.”

National officers† present for the initiation of Mu Omega’s members and the reactivation of Alpha chapter were Helen M. Harrison, President; Treva Mae

\* Only the most condensed accounts of conventions and new chapters (which carry through the year 1952) can be given in this space-restricted Supplement. The fuller story must await the writing of the complete Sixth Decade story.

\*\* The Field Secretary, Wanda Garver, went to Farmville soon after this date to work toward Alpha’s reactivation. She was soon joined by Jean Dunn, Chapter Counselor.

† Said *Themis*: “Shirley Strout, National Historian, who was to have been the banquet speaker, was taken ill two days before she was to leave for Farmville. Her engagement proved to be with an appendectomy. . . .”



Allen Seepe, Second Vice-President; Lucile Reece Roberts, N.P.C. Delegate; and Wanda Garver, Field Secretary. Founders who returned were Frances Yancey Smith and Mary Campbell Jones Batte.

Officiating at the day-long initiation ceremonies were Sarah Cole (Alexander), president of Alpha province; Frances Hatzopoulos, Frances Clements, Loretta Clark, and Nancy Ristine, of Delta chapter. The following undergraduate members became Zetas on February 25, 1949: Betty Jane Brockway, Jean Coke, Gwendolyn Cress, Frances Farley, Anne Galloway, Anne Joyner, Margaret Beasley, Catherine Carmichael, Betty Ferguson, Frances Ferguson, Helen Holbrook, Betty House, Lou Alyce Shelor, Mary Lou Woodward, Harriet Butterworth, Nancy Camper, Frances Creger, Anna Hall, Jane Hunter Lyon, Nancy McCracken, Jane Mountjoy, Mary Brownley Smith, Arnette Stead, Charlotte Willis.

Alumnæ who were initiated were: Adele Hutchinson (Watkins), Katherine Hatch (Whitfield), Josie Spencer (Cook), Mary Banks (Fretwell), Alfreda Peterson, Mary Harrison. Installation initiates were: Leola Wheeler (Mu Omega's adviser since 1911), Mary Lancaster (Wall), Virgilia Bugg, Lottie Pitts (Jones).\*

Historic Longwood, the estate owned by the college, was the setting for the White Violet Installation Banquet held that night. Frances Yancey Smith represented the Founders on the banquet program. A highlight of the evening was the announcement that "National Council was going to redecorate the chapter room as a memorial to the Founders." The chapter was also the recipient of a silver service from the national organization.

"The installation services on Saturday completed the ceremonies" which saw Alpha chapter restored to active status, and which gave the newly installed group "the honored position of being the first link in the chain of chapters."

The concluding event of the memorable week end was the large reception held that evening in the Student Lounge of the college. "Always in our memory," the new Zetas wrote, "will shine the glorious beginning of our Alpha chapter and the merging of the similar creeds, purposes, and ideals of Mu Omega and Zeta Tau Alpha."

And in the directory of the next (March-April) issue of *Themis*, the name of Alpha chapter again led all the rest—after forty-three years.

#### GAMMA IOTA:

"The University of Florida does hereby recognize Gamma Iota of Zeta Tau Alpha and does grant to said chapter all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of a national social fraternity at the University of Florida.

"In Witness Whereof, this charter duly signed, has been issued the second day of April, A.D. 1949, J. Hillis Miller, President."

This certificate of official recognition was viewed with "pride and pleasure"

\* Sister-in-law of Maud Jones Horner and wife of Reverend Plummer F. Jones.

by Zeta's fourth chapter in the state of Florida as the "symbol of the birth of Gamma Iota."

The University of Florida was "to become co-educational in the fall of 1947,\* and Zeta Tau Alpha wanted to be among the first women's fraternities on the campus," said the Gamma Iota story. Accordingly, alumnae organization was first effected at Gainesville. Transfers were next sent to the campus, and a Colony was formed. The transfers increased the number to fifteen, and in May, 1948, the group was "recognized as a Colony of Zeta Tau Alpha." On March 12, 1949, the university approved the installation of the chapter.

Gamma Iota was installed as the eighty-second chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha in late afternoon services conducted April 2, 1949, in the chapel of the Wesley Foundation, in Gainesville. Officiating were Treva Mae Allen Seepe, National Second Vice-President, and Helen Winton Jenkins, National Secretary-Treasurer, assisted by Wanda Garver, Field Secretary, and Jean Dunn, Chapter Counselor. Preceding formal installation of the chapter and the presentation of the charter, initiation ceremonies\*\* were held in the Florida Union Building.

The charter members were: Oris Darling, Mary Lou Leggett, Madge Crouch, Ona Demorest, Mildred Langford, Marcia Mitchell, Bettyre Palmer, Janet Steele. Installation initiates were: Marie Esslinger (Clayton), Adeline Schnadt (Ahmann), Gladys O'Neil (Laird), Martha Twitty, Esther Goodwin (Perdue), Marion McKinney (Cromwell), Beverly Jones (Smith), Florence Glass (Cox), Diana Angle (Harper), Hazele McCoy (Williams), Sue Spencer (Williams), Hazel Adkins (Guy), Helen Knowles (Grady), May Grundy (Henderson), Caroline La Fontisee (Palmer), Mary Ethel Gerdine (Bitting), and Wilamette Green.

Ninety attended the White Violet Installation Banquet held that night at the Hotel Thomas. "Zetas from all over Florida joined us," the chapter wrote. And "the Zetas who had transferred from other chapters to colonize Gamma Iota were recognized for their loyalty and effort by the presentation of a loving cup inscribed with their names." Iota province's gift started the chapter's "silver collection . . . but the most breathtaking surprise . . . [was] an exquisite tea and coffee service . . . a gift from National itself."

Sunday afternoon's reception in the University Recreation Center concluded the installation week end.

GAMMA PI:† Long mentioned in Zeta Tau Alpha's extension plans, a chapter at the University of Georgia became a reality in 1949, when Gamma Pi chapter was installed on the Athens campus.

\* The purchase of a house on August 11, 1947 "made Zeta Tau Alpha the only women's fraternity . . . to own a chapter house."

\*\* Wanda Garver and Jean Dunn were in charge.

† Pi follows Omicron in the order of the Greek alphabet, but since chapters are presented in the order of their installation date, Gamma Pi correctly appears in this position, as the eighty-third charter grant. The reason for giving the chapter a Greek letter in advance of the alphabetical sequence is explained above.

In October, 1948, when the need for another group was felt, Zeta Tau Alpha was one of the nationals to which an invitation was extended. Arriving as Zeta's representative, Wanda Garver, National Field Secretary, found a highly co-operative administrative staff, and in November, 1949, after having successfully met Georgia's qualifications, Zeta Tau Alpha was extended an invitation to colonize.

The Field Secretary served as the colonization officer, and Chapter Counselors Jean Dunn and Frances Bishop\* joined her to assist in organizing the new chapter that was to bear the name of Gamma Pi, although the letter  $\Pi$  (Pi) was not next in the Greek alphabet and in the logical sequence of the order of installations the Georgia chapter would have inherited a different name. It was hoped, however, that Gamma Pi would be a new chapter home for the alumnae of Pi chapter who were left without one when Georgia Wesleyan banned women's fraternities. Many Zetas in the state wanted the new Georgia chapter named in memory of the inactive Pi chapter, and Zeta's national officers concurred.

The first official meeting of the Gamma Pi Colony was held January 10, 1949,\*\* in the recreation room of Rutherford Dormitory, where meetings were held the rest of the year. The first rush party had been held at the Sigma Alpha Epsilon house, with formal pledging on December 12, at the Delta Delta Delta house.

After a House Corporation was formed by a group of Atlanta alumnae, "a magnificent home—located on a beautiful lot, shaded by century-old magnolia trees and adorned with graceful plantings"—was purchased; 948 Prince Avenue became Zeta's new, and first, address in Athens. Fall rushing was conducted in the chapter house, as was the installation of the chapter.

Installation week end began on November 4, 1949, with pledge services held Friday night for the charter members, twenty-one pledges, and seventeen installation initiates. The following charter members were initiated† Saturday morning, November 5: Corlyn Weekley, LaVerne Barge, Beverly Comerford, Jean Missett, Jacqueline Smith, Patricia Turner, Mary Agnes Weaver, Tomasina Smith.

Installation initiates from Atlanta were: Marjorie LaFollette (Van Natta), Martha Faris (Ware). From Athens: Eugenia Reese (Bensen), Elizabeth Lewis (Chapman), Anne Peake (Dobbs), Virginia Dobbs (Grimes), Collette White-

\* Juanita Patch, a transfer from Brenau College, who was already on the campus, also assisted.

\*\* The Field Secretary left January 3 to go to Virginia for work on the reactivation of Alpha chapter, and Jean Dunn left for Farmville soon after. Another Chapter Counselor, Carolyn Manahan, stayed until April.

† The pledge and initiation services were conducted by Josephine Winter, Omicron, assisted by Jean Dunn and Francine Draper, Chapter Counselors, Patricia Welchel, Shirley Bischoff, Marjorie Ellen Mathewson, Mary Love Dempsey (Sadler), of Omicron, and Josephine Nellans, Nu.



head (Thornton), Elsie Perrine (Thornton), Fay Beckett (Wilfong), Bess Phipps (Hadaway), Dorothy Stille (Tiller). From Gainesville: Inez Carter (DeWitt), Lillie Farrara (Downey), Lucille Williams (McCrary), Elizabeth Pentecost (Richardson), Johnnie Bowie (Swetenberg), Myrla Horne (Whatley).

That afternoon Gamma Pi was formally installed by Helen M. Harrison, National President, assisted by Treva Mae Allen Seepe, National Second Vice-President, Helen Winton Jenkins, National Secretary-Treasurer, and Lucile Reece Roberts, N.P.C. Delegate. The province president, Florence Hall Campbell, also helped. Following installation, the dean of women, Mrs. Edith M. Stallings, entertained the visiting officers at tea in her home, Castalia.

Dean Stallings was the principal speaker at the White Violet Installation Banquet which was held that night at the Athens Country Club. Iota province's gift was a silver bowl, while the silver service from the national organization was "a gift from Zetas everywhere."

Then Zeta Tau Alpha was introduced to Athens and the university community at a reception held Sunday afternoon at the chapter house.

Concluding the founding story of the establishment of Zeta's third chapter in the state of Georgia, and the forging of the eighty-third link, the chapter said in *Themis*: "Zeta Tau Alpha is in Georgia and at Georgia and for Georgia, and she is there to stay." There was no lack of finality in that statement.

GAMMA KAPPA: Madison College, "the second state college for women in Virginia," became the home of Zeta's sixth chapter in that state, when, early in 1949, Carolyn Geiger, Jean Davis, Nelwyn O'Brien, and Mildred Haley began considering "the possibility of having a new national group at Madison." The fact that "Panhellenic Council was also considering the need of a new sorority," evidenced the rightness of the timing.

Working together, the four girls and Panhellenic Council invited "a number of students" to attend a Panhellenic meeting on April 6. The six other campus groups\* pledged their cooperation and suggested the formation of a local, "with the idea of petitioning for affiliation with a national sorority." Mildred Haley was selected as president pro tempore of the new group, which took the name of Tau Alpha. Present at the meeting "to help with plans and answer questions," were the Panhellenic adviser and the dean of women, Hope Vandever (Miller).\*\*

When Jean Dunn, Zeta's Chapter Counselor, "spoke on the history and activities of her fraternity" at a post-Easter meeting of those "who had decided to join the group," her eager listeners "were impressed with her sincerity and friendliness, her southern charm and enthusiasm."

After a "lovely tea"—the first of their social gatherings on the Harrisonburg

\* All six were educational sororities until full admittance to the National Panhellenic Conference in 1949 gave them N.P.C. status.

\*\* A member of Zeta Tau Alpha from Sigma chapter.

campus—Tau Alpha petitioned Zeta Tau Alpha. Fifty names were signed to the petition. “Ribbon-pledged” on April 30 by Zeta’s Field Secretary, Wanda Garver, the charter members exchanged their ribbons for carpenter’s squares on May 5. The initiation of Mildred Haley, Louise King, and Margaret Moore at the June convention of Alpha province was “an unexpected honor for them and for our whole chapter,” the girls wrote.

In the fall, Joan Sawyer, Chapter Counselor, was joined by Francine Draper who arrived to assist with pledge training and rushing. “Twenty-four girls saw the Zeta way, making ours the largest pledge class on campus,” said the Madison report. Initiation (November 9-12) of the charter members, alumnae and installation initiates began “soon after rush season was over,” the Chapter Counselors officiating.

Preceded by an installation tea held in the reception room of Alumnae Hall, Gamma Kappa chapter was formally installed on November 19, 1949, by Helen M. Harrison, National President, and Helen Winton Jenkins, National Secretary-Treasurer, assisted by Mary Stacy Dodge Jackson, Virginia State Membership Chairman, and the Chapter Counselors.

Gamma Kappa’s charter members were: College members—Mary Ruth Banner, Elizabeth Louise Batts, Marjorie Lee Birchard, Nadine Clendening, Jean Goode Davis, Norma Eda Heiber, Sue Estelle Jennings, Louise Fletcher King, Audrey Anne Looney, Mary Jane Menefee, Margaret Ann Moore, Katherine Ann Moorfield, Ann Richard Neff, Alda Lorraine Simmons, Norma Faye Siviter, Barbara Jean Slempp, Ellen Fielder Waters, Nancy Jean Blanton, Barbara Ann Brittingham, Dorothy Elaine Crowder, Caroline Watson Geiger, Barbara Ann Groseclose, Dorothy Green Hinson, Frances Marie House, Lucy Elvin Jones, Rosemary Kernan, Jean Rosamond Leonard, Shirley Ann Morris, Nancy Belle Nelson, Jacqueline Peatross, Mary Frances Powell, Carolyn Mide-sell Sanderson, Joanne Katherine Webber, Margaret Louise Whitman. Alumnae—Betty Jo Armstrong, Peggy Burnette, Frances Hughes, Betty Johnson, Carey Lee Luck. Installation initiates were: Mary Margaret Brady, Linda Betts (Frazier), Mabel B. Gladdin, Grace E. Herr, Mary Hollis Taliaferro, Glada B. Walker.

The White Violet Installation Banquet was held that night in the college’s Senior Dining Hall. A silver service was the national organization’s gift. The chapter had only two weeks in which to display the circulating Baby Cup, which goes from new chapter to new chapter, before it was time to send it to Gamma Lambda.

Gamma Kappa, located in a sister college to the one at which Zeta was founded, received the eighty-fourth charter grant.

**GAMMA LAMBDA:** The first step was taken toward the establishment of Zeta’s second chapter in New York, when, in October, 1948, Phi Sigma Phi,

an eighteen-year old local at Hartwick College, petitioned for a charter. But Hartwick was not yet an accredited institution eligible for N.P.C. fraternities, so a disappointed group had "to wait until such time as it was accredited, before Zeta could accept our petition," they wrote in *Themis*. That accreditation came in the spring.

After a visit from Virginia Wartman, National Membership Chairman, and Ruth Brooker, Chapter Counselor, Phi Sigma Phi members became Zeta pledges on May 12, 1949, in services conducted by Hazel Wood (Spencer), former Gamma province president, and six\* members from Alpha Rho. Commuting to Oneonta from Syracuse, Dorothy Hotopp became the new group's adviser.

Installation of Gamma Lambda chapter took place December 2-3, 1949, with Helen Winton Jenkins, National Secretary-Treasurer, and Doris Murray Richmond, National Finance Chairman, officiating. They were assisted by Joan Sawyer and Francine Draper, Chapter Counselors.

Gamma Lambda's charter members were: Gladys Barbara Banks, Barbara Ann Crawley, Charlotte Heidemann, Janet Anne Knowlson, Sally Sedgwick, Sandra Adamovitch, Katherine Harrison, Helen Nelson, Joan Olsen, Francine Pidgeon, June Polhill, Marilyn Ruttenbur, Marie Sullivan, Barbara Atchinson, Anne Bakker, Mary A. House, Christine Klinger, Marjorie Jean McNeilly, Kathleen Norris, Norma Jane Wilson.

Alumnæ who were initiated were: Marion Buchanan, Doris Hansen, Doris Johnson, Katherine Ann Loeffler, Joan Lowy, Barbara MacEwan, Roberta More, Dorothy Rumpf, Jean Allen Signal, Norma Tait, Doris Zelig. Installation initiates were Dr. Martha Storek, Dr. Ethel Callahan, Marie Rowe (Lauren), Hazel Hughes (Peterson).

At the formal banquet held that night at the Oneonta Hotel, the new chapter received many gifts, including a beautiful silver service from National Council. A formal tea held Sunday afternoon at the chapter house, 1 Center Street, concluded the installation program.

Zeta Tau Alpha was the first national group on the campus, and Gamma Lambda became the eighty-fifth link in the chain of chapters.

**GAMMA MU:** The scene next shifted to Nebraska when Sigma Chi Omicron, a thirty-six year old local at the University of Omaha, received the eighty-sixth charter grant.

"In 1914, five years after the University's founding, ten girls with a common bond of interest and ideals founded an organization with the intention of promoting service, cultural development, spiritual standards, high scholarship, and intellectual life among its members."

\* Nancy Bacon, Lee Thorne, Doreen Brown, Dorothy Hotopp, Nancy Buckley, and Janet Jones.



The ten—Katherine Ritchey (Creel), Helen Johnston (Cultra), Elizabeth Berryman (Gagnebin), Marion Pearsall (Goodrich), Etta Barensten (Meyers), Gail Charles (Mitchell), Annette Nourse (Paisley), Rita Carpenter (Proudfit), Effie Cleland (Selby), and Mabel Nelson (Thomas)—“were recognized by the university in 1915 as the first Greek letter sorority on the campus.”

Pledging, on May 30, 1950, was under the direction of Joan Sawyer, Chapter Counselor, and Marian Randles Babbit, Eta province president. Chapter Counselors Francine Draper and Phyllis Luvera were with the chapter for fall rushing. The pledge class of thirty-three was the largest on campus.

Initiation week,\* which started on October 1, 1950, culminated in the installation of Gamma Mu chapter on Saturday afternoon, October 7, in the Student Lounge. Marion Jones Withrow, National First Vice-President, and Kathryn Ruckman Kortier, National Membership Director, were the installing officers.

The charter members of Gamma Mu were: Bonny Ruth Burgess, Paula Diehl, Barbara Ann Ehlers, Gayle Eustice, Janice Fahnestock, Jacqueline Geilus, Shirley Gilliland, Mary Alice Hanson, Dorothy Jean Hayes, Dolores Heinisch, Shirley Ann Heinz, Nancy Hileman, Ruthann Irvin, Betty Jeanne Karr, Sonya Lewis, Jean McDonald, Marion McKay, Harriett McLellan, Gloria Olderog, Harriet Oviatt, Marlene Pedersen, Marilyn Sibert—and Gloria Ann Schiro and Margaret Ann Smith, who were initiated at the 1950 national convention.

Alumnæ initiates were: Mabel Nelson (Thomas), Mary Harkness (Anderson), Elizabeth Becksted, Lynn M. Britt, Darlene Kozak (Burnam), Helen Dunkin (Cackley), Jeannette Crapenhof (Dawson), Barbara Jean Eckert, Dixie Karns (Goddy), Gloria Ann Haarmann, Jean Ellison (Hermann), Arlene Ackerman (Hinchcliff), Marilyn Johnson (Kremers), Dorothy Feichtmayer (Long), Gwendolyn Thompson (Luebe), Gretchen Claudius (McWilliams), Kay Kuhn (Medlock), Harriet Salmon (Mertens), Darlene Nelson, Doris Waterman (O'Neill), Eloise Price, Joan Sorenson (Rispler), Frances McCulley (Smith), Jean Marise Wingate. Installation initiates were: Marion Marsh (Brown), Dorothy Ahern (Pritchard), Louise Seidl, Nell Marguerite Ward.

Some 120 Zetas and guests attended the White Violet Installation Banquet held that evening in the salon of the Omaha Athletic Club. The chapter was presented with the by-now-traditional gift of a silver tea service from the national organization. Sunday afternoon's reception in the Black Mirror Room of the Fontelle Hotel was the concluding event of installation week.

Zeta Tau Alpha was the third national group on the Omaha campus.

GAMMA XI: Lambda Psi Delta, founded in February, 1950, by a group of twenty girls at Indiana State Teachers College, Indiana, Pennsylvania, was the

\* Under the direction of Francine Draper.

next successful petitioning group to win a Zeta charter. Lambda Psi Delta's purpose was "to promote and maintain democratic ideals, and to further the development of character and scholarship." "Social activities," they said, were "to be subordinate to the general welfare of the college campus and community."

Visiting the campus on special assignment from Zeta Tau Alpha, Wanda Garver, State Membership Chairman, met the three local groups that were interested in immediate affiliation with a national organization. The administration, headed by President Willis E. Pratt, was most cooperative.

As a result of Wanda's trips and Zeta enthusiasm, Lambda Psi Delta sent its petition to Zeta Tau Alpha shortly after Christmas, in 1950. The chapter was inspected by Jeanette Bertram Chapman, Second Vice-President, January 13-14, 1951. Since the Council, through the State Membership Chairman, had been kept well informed on all aspects of the Pennsylvania sorority, Mrs. Chapman carried with her the authorization to proceed with pledging if the group met with her approval.

Writing in *Themis*, Lambda Psi Delta said: "Thinking that Mrs. Chapman's visit was for the sole purpose of inspecting our local group, imagine our surprise and excitement when we were informed that we had been accepted and would be pledged the following morning"! Thirty girls were pledged on January 14, 1951.

With Mrs. Chapman and Kathryn Ruckman Kortier, National Membership Director, as the officiating officers, Gamma Xi chapter was installed on May 12, 1951, in services held in the Methodist Church. Thirteen Zetas from Chi chapter helped with the initiation.

The charter members were: Jane Schwartz, Betty McVey, Mary Ann Porter, Janet McHugh, Sally Betts Hutton, Ruth Frencik, Doris Thompson, Betty Jane Barbour, Barbara Jean Bradstock, Sue Louise Bacon, Ethel Krehely, Janet Stewart, Marie Onest, Patricia Snyder, Eunice Walker, Marilyn Wolfe, Helen Barr, Georgia Ann Funk, Geraldine Rees, Marilyn Ward, Barbara Jean Stanier, Madalyn Fritz, Jean Johnson, Beatrice Smith, Lois Norris, Annette Dunkle, Marilyn Rice, Muriel Courson Smith, Norma Davidson, Jo Anne Hardwick, Annabel Switzer, Sara Theemler, Marilyn Jean Walker, Boldwen Burr, Elizabeth Hamill, Christine Yanity.

The installation initiates were: Alberta Kessinger (Meadowcroft), Jean English (Blackwood), Bess Meadowcroft (McElvany), Jane Griffith (Potter), Jane Prince Moodie (Trapp), Marian Johnson (Kipp), Helen Musser.

Seventy-eight attended the White Violet Installation Banquet held that evening at the Indiana Country Club. At the Sunday afternoon reception held the next day in the Reception Lounge of John Sutton Hall on campus, Gamma Xi had the pleasure of using the new silver service it had acquired the night before—the national organization's gift to the new chapter. The province also presented a gift of silver.

Gamma Xi was Zeta's fifth chapter in the state of Pennsylvania, and the fraternity's eighty-seventh charter grant.

**GAMMA OMICRON:** Established on October 15, 1940, at Central Michigan College, Mount Pleasant, Michigan, the purpose of Phi Delta Eta was "to help build character, to stimulate high endeavor, to create a friendly spirit in all human relationships, and to promote high social, ethical, and intellectual standards." The group strove "to emphasize both the social and cultural aspects of college life."

Those organizing the local sorority were: Glenna Asher, Elenor Blesah, Marilynne Cobb, Dorothy Doyle, May Filer, Frances Goodyear, Virginia Kurtz, Lois Larsen, Shirley Loding, Helen McKee, Marguerite Malpass, Sheila Navarre, Barbara June Payne, Ela Stahlman, Margaret Todd, and Florence Woodward.

"The thought that Phi Delta Eta would some day be affiliated with a national group was an objective toward which the members had worked since its founding," the chapter wrote. This hope was fulfilled when its petition to Zeta Tau Alpha was accepted, and thirty-one girls were pledged on the week end of April 14-15, 1951, in the recreation room of Sloan Hall Dormitory. Frances Berry Carter, Theta province president, was assisted by members of Beta Tau chapter. A banquet followed in Keeler Union.

Assisted by members of Beta Phi and Beta Tau, initiation took place May 19-20, under the direction of Janice Doty, Chapter Counselor. "A large double room in Warriner Hall, the administration building, was transformed into a scene of calm serenity, for the initiation ceremony," the *Themis* account said.

Those initiated were: Frances Billington, Marie Fox, Mary Alice Gordon, Florence Knoblock, Ruth Blakeslee, Margaret Orris, Nancy Post, Barbara Subia, Margaret Atkins, Kathleen Flynn, Geraldine Hall, Virginia Hollar, Marilyn Jones, Joyce Jowett, Mary Elizabeth Flynn, Mary Lou Judd, Dorothy Eddy (Theunissen), Jane Hemming, Edna Pierce, Geraldine Williams, Marilyn Young, Lois Bernthal, Lorraine Conklin, Ann Gibbs, Beatrice Hazenbuch, M. Sheila Maule, Judith Nellis, Evelyn Olsen, Barbara Ann Olson, Patricia Thwaites, Kay True.

A few days later, at three o'clock, on May 26, 1951, Marion Jones Withrow, First Vice-President, and Kathryn Ruckman Kortier, Membership Director, conducted the formal installation service for Gamma Omicron chapter in St. John's Episcopal Parish House. The morning pledging of the installation initiates and their one o'clock initiation (with Beta Phi conducting both services), as well as the luncheon held in the Union Building, preceded the charter presentation and installation ceremony.

The installation initiates were: Velma Beisner (Hartman), Ingrid Johnson (Hepler), Jean Northway (Hewitt), Gail Dankert (Knapp), Ruth Snellenberger



(Leonard), Virginia Bissell (McClantic), Margaret Brainerd (McFarlane), Reva Wheelock (Wender), Lucile Scheidel (Wysong).

Seventy-two attended the White Violet Installation Banquet which was held in the Union that night. In appreciation of her interest and assistance, the chapter presented a pair of silver candlesticks to its adviser, Miss Gertrude Pratt. In turn, Gamma Omicron received many beautiful gifts from the province and the national organization. At the Sunday afternoon reception, which was held in the ballroom of the Keeler Union, they were proud of "their silver tray and matching candy and nut dishes, and the silver tea and coffee service," the latter being National Council's gift.

Gamma Omicron was Zeta's fourth chapter in the state of Michigan, and the eighty-eighth charter grant.

**GAMMA RHO:** Late in March, 1951, the Zetas in the state of Alabama "received a thrilling notice from the national organization" telling them that "during the week of March 18, the college Panhellenic at Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Alabama, voted to invite Zeta Tau Alpha to colonize on that campus." Selection of Zeta Tau Alpha to be the next national group at Auburn was entertained with enthusiasm and approved by the Administration. . . . "Colonization is to begin at once, although we will not participate in formal rush until fall," the bulletin read.

With this enlistment of the Alabama Zetas in sending recommendations for the new group, and the arrival, on March 31, of Francine Draper, Chapter Counselor, colonization got under way. And, as was true in the case of other colonized chapters, the splendid cooperation of the deans of women, the College Panhellenic, and Zeta alumnae\* in the area all combined to make Gamma Rho's organization story an inspiring one.

Pledge lessons were begun at the first meeting of Gamma Rho Colony, on April 25, in Brown Auditorium, with the colonization officer presiding. Thereafter the group held regular weekly meetings, entered into an active social life, and participated in Panhellenic affairs. By the end of May, twenty-five girls had been pledged.\*\* And fall rushing was most successful.\*\*\*

On December 2, 1951, initiation services† were held in Duncan Hall Auditorium for the following charter members: Ann DeLoach, Kathryn Hilton,

\* In the account she wrote for *Themis*, Francine Draper especially mentioned Dorothy Collars (Dorsey), Omicron, and Martha Louise Anderson (Hardie), Beta, as the "two women who were . . . my mainstays." Many affairs were held in the Dorsey and Hardie homes.

\*\* The Colony's first two initiated members were Anne Wicker, president, and Mary Emma Sellers, who were initiated at Iota province's July convention.

\*\*\* The group felt indebted to Coorganizers Betty Duncan and Madge Alexander, "transfers from Beta Gamma."

† Officiating were Betty Duncan, Anne Wicker, Mary Emma Sellers, and Madge Alexander.

Katherine Holland, Margaret Meinhardt, Betty Ann Sellers, Mary Emma Sellers, Alida Stewart, Peggy Ann Spivery, Ellen Taylor, Ann Wicker, Ellyanne Green, Julia Hayden, Ann Lewis, Betty Jean Sanders, Betty Jo Whetstone, Valerie Dobson, Frances Holland, Marilakin Howard, Eugenia Malone, Ann McQueen, Gloria Young, Mary Kate Logan.

Installation initiates were: Elnora Planck (DeVall), Harriet Pammel (Seal), Evangeline Sprague (Coursen) and Ruth Adams (Wells).

Gamma Rho was officially installed as the eighty-ninth chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha on Saturday,\* December 8, 1951, by Helen M. Harrison, National President, and Lucile Reece Roberts, N.P.C. Delegate. Francine Draper and Florence Hall Campbell, province president, assisted.

That night the chapter went to the nearby town of Opelika, where the White Violet Installation Banquet was held at the Clement Hotel. Gifts and flowers from Auburn's other Greek groups, gifts from the Auburn-Opelika alumnae, two silver trays from Iota province, and the presentation of "the gorgeous silver service" from National Council made it "seem that Christmas had come early," the chapter wrote.

On Sunday morning the Zetas attended the Auburn Methodist Church in a body. That afternoon the reception in Auburn's Social Center concluded the events of installation week end.

Gamma Rho was the fourth chapter that Zeta Tau Alpha had established in Alabama.

**GAMMA NU:** The classically beautiful University of Virginia—founded and nurtured by Thomas Jefferson—became the home of Gamma Nu chapter when, in 1951, Zeta Tau Alpha was invited to colonize at that historic university.

First opened to classes on March 7, 1825, enrollment was restricted to men until 1920-21, when "it was provided that women might attend the graduate and professional departments."†

In colonizing the group, Mary Stacy Jackson, Alpha province president, had the cooperation of transfers Nancy Camper, Alpha; Charlotte Yancey, Delta; Virginia Jones, Beta Sigma, and Frances Edwards, Omicron. Audrey Johnson Cushman, a former Alpha province president, gave valuable assistance. Other chapters in the province enthusiastically assisted in rushing, and by the end of

\* The previous afternoon the dean of women, Miss Katherine Cater, "gave a delightful coffee for the national officers, alumnae president, and chairman of the advisory board." That night the chapter gave a coffee at the Saughatchee Country Club for their visitors. Then, on Saturday morning two of Gamma Rho's patronesses, Mrs. B. Conn Anderson and Mrs. A. T. Sprague, also entertained at a coffee at the former's home.

† Completion of two years' academic work elsewhere was required of women students (except those whose homes were in or near Charlottesville), and they had to be at least twenty years of age.

spring rushing, the Gamma Nu Colony was numerically comparable with the other two women's groups\* on the grounds.†

Jeanette Bertram Chapman, National Second Vice-President, was the installing officer on January 4, 1952, when Gamma Nu Colony became Gamma Nu chapter. The initiates were: Irene Echols, Sarah Meador, Harriet Hodges, Joyce Mayo, Mary Ellen Whitehurst, Dorothy Crute, Mary Ann McCasland, Peggy Morris, Joan Florence, Vivian White, Elizabeth Wade, Carolyn Clark, and Oakley Everitt.

Following installation and the presentation of the charter, the White Violet Installation Banquet was held that night in the Monticello Hotel of Charlottesville. Among its gifts, the chapter received a silver service from National Council.

Gamma Nu, the eighth chapter that Zeta Tau Alpha had installed in the state of Virginia, was the ninetieth link in the chain of chapters.

**GAMMA SIGMA:** Zeta Tau Alpha's fifth chapter in the state of Florida was placed at the University of Tampa when Sigma Theta Phi, an eighteen-year old local group, received the ninety-first charter grant.

Almost as old as the university itself—and one of the two oldest of Tampa's five sororities—Sigma Theta Phi was founded on April 9, 1934, by Vivian Barber, Edenia Delaney, Eleanor Marchman, Mary Miceli, Therese Rehak, Marie Sanford, Sarah Tyler, Agnes Whittmore and Margaret Williams. "Organized as a scholastic and social society," Sigma Theta Phi had "a three-point program—scholarship, thoughtfulness, and progress."

By 1951, when Tampa became an eligible field for N.P.C. groups, "the roll of the sorority had grown to over two hundred members," and the years had accumulated a volume of honors. When national affiliation became a possibility, the group chose Zeta Tau Alpha.

Florence Hall Campbell, president of Iota province, made the formal inspection, and on May 17, 1952, at the home of Mrs. Ormond Sexton, Gamma Sigma Colony came into existence with the pledging of twenty-four Sigma Theta Phis. Mrs. Campbell was assisted in the pledging ceremonies by Stella Sexton (Graff), Tampa Alumnæ president, and other members of the alumnæ group. Following pledging, the alumnæ entertained the pledges at an informal tea.

In November, Betty Duncan, Chapter Counselor, arrived "to work with the chapter" and the already-busy Tampa Alumnæ on final installation plans. Then on November 22, in services held at the First Baptist Church, the following charter members of Gamma Sigma were initiated: Betty Burnett, Bettye June Robinson, Sue Shaffer, Kay Johnson, Beatrice Peter, Sara Kirkland, Ann Shaffer, Mitzi Hoffer, Katherine Weekley, Elizabeth Birge, Patricia Williamson, Mar-

\* Greek-letter groups for men numbered thirty.

† *Grounds*, and not *campus*, is the term used at the University of Virginia.



garet Mosbacher, Janet Addison, Rosalie Durand, Delina Smith, Phyllis Stockton, Lee Clark, Margaretta McCormick, Jayne Thompson. The services were conducted by Betty Duncan, assisted by Tampa Alumnæ members.

On November 25, Miss Duncan and Mrs. Graff conducted pledging ceremonies for the installation initiates and a group of Sigma Theta Phi alumnæ. The alumnæ were: Julie Daniels (Bedingfield), Gladys Guthrie (Canary), Margaret Williams (Chastain), Dorothy Alonzo (Cox), Loraine Oglesby (Douglas), Joan Schwab (Goodson), Genevieve Sultenfuss (Quigley), Ronnie Constantine (Hutchinson), Grace Bruton (Kelly), Juanita Guerra (Kolka), Betty Brownsey (Lyons), Betty Hayes (Maloney), Dorothy Gonzalez (Quartermann), Barbara Lacy (Robinson), Verna Vining (Smith), Shirley Drawdy (Stevens), Mary Jessica (Sultenfuss), Edenia Delaney (Terry), Florence Flanders (Williers), Nancy Anderson (Wright), Martha Jane Coler, Arline Fetzer, Madge Kleinhammer, Mary Julia Mena, Marjorie Oglesby, and Sharon Stanaland.

Installation initiates were: Anita Hebble (Archer), Ellen Remensynder (Carlton), Grace Richards (Jackson), Leah Fellaboom (Musselman), Ruby Marcum (Nye), Leacy Griffin (Quinn), Stella Crowell (Sexton), Barbara Fennel (Spies), Winifred Briggs (Smith) and Charlotte Ann Thompson.

Coinciding with Thanksgiving week end, the final events of Gamma Sigma's installation began on Friday, November 28, 1952, when initiation services were held for the recently pledged alumnæ. That night the Tampa Alumnæ entertained at a coffee in the dining room of the First Baptist Church. The installation initiates were inducted into the fraternity the next morning. Officiating were Gloria Cermak and Mary Hutchinson, Gamma Iota, and Nancy Wilson and Betty Cromartz, Beta Gamma, who were assisted by members of the Tampa Alumnæ.

Gamma Sigma received its charter and was officially installed Saturday afternoon by Jeanette Bertram Chapman, National First Vice-President, assisted by Mrs. Campbell and Betty Duncan.

Eighty Zetas attended the White Violet Installation Banquet held that evening in the Caribbean Room of the Tampa Terrace Hotel. Mrs. Chapman was the guest speaker. "At the conclusion of her inspiring talk," she presented the chapter with a silver service—the national organization's gift. Gamma Sigma also received two silver sandwich trays from the province, two silver nut and mint dishes from the Tampa Alumnæ, and a pair of silver candlesticks from the Sigma Theta Phi alumnæ. And Gamma Nu bequeathed the much traveled Baby Cup to them.

The week end's concluding event was Sunday afternoon's formal tea at the Cricket Tea Room, when the new Zeta chapter was presented to members of the administration, faculty, other campus organizations and Greek groups, friends and relatives.

Zeta Tau Alpha was the first N.P.C. fraternity to install a chapter at Tampa.

# Conventions

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## *The Twentieth National Convention*

**O**UR HERITAGE—FRATERNITY AND COUNTRY” was the theme of the twentieth national and ninth international convention\* held July 2-7, 1950, at the Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, Michigan. New chapters represented for the first time were Gamma Iota, Gamma Pi, Gamma Kappa, Gamma Lambda, Gamma Mu.

Woven into the program of business sessions, instructive panels and round-tables were feature luncheons and dinners for which the various provinces made plans and acted as hostesses.

Nearly 300 Zetas observed White Day, which started with the memorial service. Dr. M. Eunice Hilton, dean of Syracuse University's college of home economics, was the speaker that night. "To the Victor" was the subject of Miss Helen Reich's talk at the final Awards Banquet. The opening day's post-luncheon speaker was Allen A. Zoll, Sigma Nu, executive vice-president of the National Council for American Education, whose subject was "Our American Heritage." The initiation of Margaret Ann Smith and Gloria Schiro, representing Gamma Mu, marked the official installation date of that chapter.

Introduced was the new Cerebral Palsy Equipment Manual, published by the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Incorporated, and Zeta Tau Alpha. Continuation of fund raising to keep this Manual up-to-date was voted. Issued at this time was the National Society's first press release announcing the Manual's publication.

Helper Memorial Awards went to Helen Reich, Alpha Alpha-Alpha Omicron (alumna recipient), and Phyllis Luvera, Psi (collegiate recipient). Lambda won the Standards Award; Alpha Psi the Activities trophy; Alpha Rho received the Merit Award. The Scholarship Cup went to Gamma Epsilon, while Alpha Eta took home the Achievement Award. Beta Tau was awarded a scholarship plaque for the first time, with Beta Sigma, Beta Omega, Beta Theta, Beta Nu, and Nu as repeaters.

Honor rings were awarded to Edith Thompson, Beta Rho; Marion Mayer

\* A short National Council meeting and a one-day school for province presidents preceded convention. Province officers attending were: Alpha, Mary Stacy (Jackson); Beta, Jeanette Spann; Gamma, Miriam Faust (Muffy); Delta, Jeanette Bertram (Chapman); Epsilon, Genevieve Gragg (Gardner); Zeta, Margaret Miller (Jacoby); Eta, Marian Randles (Babbit); Theta, Frances Berry (Carter); Iota, Florence Hall (Campbell); Kappa, Margaret Sullivan (Devers); Lambda, Mildred Snowden (Smith).

(Bergin), Alpha Nu; Frances Berry (Carter), Beta Tau; Dorothy Smith (Devlin), Upsilon; Magnolia Bostic Kerr (Platt), Omicron; Caroline Brewer (Killian), Alpha Upsilon; Kathryn Ruckman (Kortier), Alpha Zeta; Lucile Mead (Lamb), Upsilon; Winifred Glynn (Todd), Beta Epsilon; Hope Vandever (Miller), Sigma.

Approved for presentation at province meetings was an award to alumnae whose service, while sustained and outstanding, did not qualify for the honoring. (This became the Alumnae Certificate of Merit.) The Order of the Shield was established to give recognition to fifty-year members. National Council was to explore the possibility of establishing a Foundation (as a separate corporation) "for the purpose of acquiring and administering funds that may be contributed to a Foundation, such funds to be used for the purpose of providing scholarships for students of the fraternity, gifts for the needy and deserving members of the fraternity, and for such other purposes as may be . . . determined by the National Council." A report was to be made to the next convention. A committee was "to study the needs of the alumnae in terms of using the Life Dues Reserve Fund for that purpose," reporting its progress to the 1952, 1954, and 1956 conventions. The 1958 convention was to hear "a summary report of its findings." Corporations and chapters were permitted to invest their surplus funds in other houses through the national fraternity. The Nominating Committee by-law requirements were to be referred "to the Constitution Committee for study and definite amendment to set forth specific requirements for membership and for the time of appointment and procedures."

In the event of war or any allied emergency, National Council was given war emergency power to act for the fraternity. An official flag was adopted, the winning design being submitted by Gamma Epsilon chapter. Selection of a committee to investigate the possibility of a ten-year plan for the rotation of convention sites was authorized. The Historical Exhibit was again shown. A daily noon newscast kept everyone informed.

Returned to the presidency was Helen M. Harrison. New Council members elected were Jeanette Bertram (Chapman), Second Vice-President; Kathryn Ruckman (Kortier), Membership Director. Other officers were Marion Jones (Withrow), First Vice-President and Edith Thompson, Alumnae Director, who completed the Executive Council. They, with Helen Winton (Jenkins), Secretary-Treasurer; Shirley Kresan Strout, Editor-Historian; Lucile Reece Roberts, N.P.C. Delegate, and Doris Murray Richmond, Finance Chairman, made up the National Council. Retiring were Treva Mae Allen (Seepe), Second Vice-President, and Virginia Wartman, Membership Director, whose new *Rushing Manual* made its debut at this convention. Miami, Florida was chosen as the next convention site.



## *The Twenty-First National Convention*

"Zeta Sings of Progress" was the theme\* of the twenty-first national and tenth international convention\*\* held June 23-28, 1952, at the Huntington Hotel, Pasadena, California. Orchid-lei bedecked officers received some six hundred guests at the opening night's reception for National Council†, given by the Southern California Federation of ZTA. Gamma Mu, Gamma Nu, Gamma Xi, Gamma Omicron, and Gamma Rho were new chapters represented for the first time.

Convention speakers were Robert Munger, founder and director of the Students for America Clubs, Mrs. Edwarda White, counselor for women at the University of Southern California, and Dean Nola Stark Rogers, assistant dean of students at the University of California at Los Angeles.

The memorial service opened a modified White Day which continued through this day of ritualistic services. White dresses were worn during the day, but white formals did not appear that night.

The President's report cited the danger of subversive pressure groups working in colleges and universities. Convention passed the recommendation "that at all future national and province conventions a tribute to our country's flag be given. At this critical time in our history it is imperative that our first loyalty be to God and our country. . . ." The singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner," followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of "God Save the Queen" were recommended.

Legislatively: College members were to pay their life membership dues before the close of the college year in which they were initiated. Chapters or house corporations having national loans "must make regular monthly payments." If corporations failed to meet these payments, "the amount will be charged to the college chapter," that amount being "deducted from rent payments paid to the corporation." Approved was a yearly budget not requiring convention approval, departing from the long-followed procedure of having a two-year convention-approved budget. Provision was made for the suspension of members whose conduct is inimical or detrimental to the best interests of the fraternity. Withdrawal of a chapter was to be announced in the same manner as a new chapter, via *The Link* and *Crown and Shield*. Workshops and state days received official approval. National Council was "to revise and

\* Especially appropriate because the new songbook [edited by Roxine Beard (Petzold), with Gena Branscombe as a collaborator-committee member] made its début at this time.

\*\* Those travelling west on the Zeta Special enjoyed a day of sight-seeing at the Grand Canyon en route.

† During its short pre-convention meeting and preceding the one-day province presidents' training school, National Council entertained other NPC officers living in the Los Angeles area.

compile directive material for the organizing and functioning of Mothers' Clubs." Greek names for officers were to be restored in the Service Book, and again used in the service. The ritual chairman was to be installed as a chapter officer. An important approved change in the initiation service was carried in the September, 1952, *Link*.

More nearly defining the functioning of that five-member committee, the former Executive Council was hereafter to be referred to more accurately as the Executive Committee. In functioning, the group acts as the executive committee of the larger National Council; thus, the somewhat misleading older term was replaced by a more accurate one. Also, the Field Secretary\* was no longer to be a member of National Council.

The 1950-convention-created Life Membership Advisory Committee reported spending the two-year period in study. It said:

The fraternity membership, as well as this committee, undoubtedly realizes that housing college chapters adequately is of vital importance and must be given first consideration. National Council and the Finance Committee have seen fit to use the portion of the funds available for investment purposes in mortgages on fraternity houses. . . . Interest on those loans and payments of the principal are being collected . . . and placed in the Service Endowment Fund to be held there for reinvestment.

Three hundred of the Zeta-sponsored Cerebral Palsy Equipment Manuals were to be allocated "for distribution in foreign countries sympathetic to our democratic way of life." Eloise Ayers Graybill, Tau, an experienced worker for the cerebral-palsied, was the Service Day speaker.

Wanda Garver, Gamma Epsilon, former Chapter Counselor and Field Secretary, was the alumna recipient of the Helper Memorial Award; Anne Montgomery, Alpha Delta, was the college member honored. Omega won the Standards Award; Alpha Eta received the Merit Award; Xi won the Golden Anniversary Scholarship Cup, while Alpha Phi captured the Achievement Award. Three activity trophies (for different types of campuses), went to Gamma Epsilon, Epsilon, and Mu. Many other trophies were awarded. Gamma Epsilon and Alpha Eta received scholarship plaques for the first time. Repeaters were Mu, Alpha Tau, and Beta Theta.

Honor rings were awarded to Esther Power, Theta; Frances Kennerly Morton, Beta Lambda.

Records containing Zeta songs beautifully recorded by the famous Branscombe choral group of New York City were the convention favors. Again province-planned feature dinners and luncheons implemented the business sessions and round-tables. There were numerous exhibits, including the Historical Exhibit. There was also a noon newscast.

\* "Actually," said *Themis*, "there has not been a Field Secretary for several years, the general trend being toward Counselors."

Executive Committee members\* elected were: President, Helen M. Harrison; First Vice-President, Jeanette Bertram Chapman; Second Vice-President, Helen M. Reich; Alumnae Director, Frances Berry Carter; Membership Director, Kathryn Ruckman Kortier. Comprising National Council were those five and the Secretary-Treasurer, Helen Winton Jenkins; Editor-Historian, Shirley Kreasan Strout; N.P.C. Delegate, Lucile Reece Roberts; Finance Chairman, Margarethe Faulstich Livesay.†

\* Gifts of silver were presented to retiring members Marion Jones Withrow and Edith Thompson.

† Mrs. Livesay replaced Doris Richmond, who died in July, 1952.

(Province presidents attending the 1952 convention were: Alpha, Mary Stacy Dodge (Jackson); Beta, Evelyn Harris (Bond); Gamma, Roxine Beard (Petzold); Delta, Mary Oldman (Hollen); Epsilon, Jane Shotwell (Kerr); Zeta, Alberta Thompson (Ginocchio); Eta, Marian Randles (Babbit); Theta, Frances Berry (Carter); Iota, Florence Hall (Campbell); Kappa, Audrey Woods (Brown); Lambda, Mildred Snowden (Smith).)





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*Chapter Roll*

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# Chapter Roll

## Listed According to Date of Installation

| Link | Chapter       | College  | Inacti-<br>Year vated | Reacti-<br>vated |
|------|---------------|--|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1    | Alpha         | Longwood College,* Farmville, Virginia                         | 1898                  | 1906 1949        |
| 2    | Original Beta | Richmond Woman's College, <i>sub-rosa</i> , Richmond, Virginia | 1902                  | 1903             |
| 3    | Gamma         | Hannah More Academy, Reistertown, Maryland                     | 1902                  | 1904             |
| 4    | Delta         | Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Lynchburg, Virginia            | 1902                  |                  |
| 5    | Epsilon       | University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.                          | 1903                  | 1942 1946        |
| 6    | Zeta          | University of Tennessee, Knoxville.                            | 1904                  |                  |
| 7    | Eta           | Mary Baldwin Seminary, Staunton, Virginia                      | 1904                  | 1906             |
| 8    | New Beta      | Judson College, Marion, Alabama                                | 1905                  | 1919             |
| 9    | Theta         | Bethany College, Bethany, West Virginia                        | 1905                  |                  |
| 10   | Iota          | Richmond College, Richmond, Virginia                           | 1905                  | 1908             |
| 11   | Kappa         | University of Texas, Austin.                                   | 1906                  |                  |
| 12   | Lambda        | Southwestern University, Georgetown, Texas                     | 1906                  |                  |
| 13   | Mu            | Drury College, Springfield, Missouri                           | 1909                  |                  |
| 14   | Nu            | University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa.                             | 1910                  |                  |
| 15   | Xi            | University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California     | 1910                  |                  |
| 16   | Omicron       | Brenau College, Gainesville, Georgia                           | 1911                  |                  |
| 17   | Pi            | Georgia Wesleyan College, Macon.                               | 1911                  | 1914             |
| 18   | Rho           | Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts                       | 1912                  | 1934             |
| 19   | Sigma         | Baker University, Baldwin, Kansas                              | 1912                  |                  |
| 20   | Tau           | James Millikin University, Decatur, Illinois                   | 1912                  |                  |
| 21   | Upsilon       | University of California, Berkeley.                            | 1915                  |                  |
| 22   | Phi           | Duke University, Durham, North Carolina                        | 1915                  |                  |
| 23   | Chi           | University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania             | 1915                  |                  |
| 24   | Omega         | Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas                   | 1916                  |                  |
| 25   | Psi           | University of Washington, Seattle.                             | 1917                  |                  |
| 26   | Alpha Alpha   | Iowa Wesleyan College, Mt. Pleasant.                           | 1918                  | 1943 1946        |
| 27   | Alpha Beta    | University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.                      | 1918                  | 1954             |
| 28   | Alpha Gamma   | University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.                             | 1920                  | 1951 1956        |
| 29   | Alpha Delta   | Butler University, Indianapolis, Indiana                       | 1920                  | 1956             |
| 30   | Alpha Epsilon | University of Denver, Denver, Colorado                         | 1921                  | 1934             |
| 31   | Alpha Zeta    | Ohio State University, Columbus.                               | 1921                  |                  |
| 32   | Alpha Eta     | University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio                     | 1921                  |                  |
| 33   | Alpha Theta   | Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana                     | 1921                  | 1934 1947        |
| 34   | Alpha Iota    | Lawrence College, Appleton, Wisconsin                          | 1921                  | 1939             |
| 35   | Alpha Kappa   | University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.                      | 1921                  |                  |

\* Formerly the State Female Normal School, later the Virginia State Teachers College. In 1949 the new name of Longwood College was adopted.

| Link | Chapter       | College  | Inacti- Reacti- |           |
|------|---------------|--|-----------------|-----------|
|      |               |  | Year vated      | vated     |
| 36   | Alpha Lambda  | Hollins College, Hollins, Virginia                               | 1921            | 1929      |
| 37   | Alpha Mu      | Washburn College, Topeka, Kansas                                 | 1922            |           |
| 38   | Alpha Nu      | Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham, Alabama                 | 1922            |           |
| 39   | Alpha Xi      | University of Indiana, Bloomington.                              | 1922            |           |
| 40   | Alpha Omicron | University of Iowa, Iowa City                                    | 1922            |           |
| 41   | Alpha Pi      | Ohio University, Athens, Ohio                                    | 1922            |           |
| 42   | Alpha Rho     | Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York                          | 1922            |           |
| 43   | Alpha Sigma   | Oregon State College, Corvallis.                                 | 1923            | 1933      |
| 44   | Alpha Tau     | University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.                            | 1923            |           |
| 45   | Alpha Upsilon | Oklahoma A & M College, Stillwater.                              | 1923            |           |
| 46   | Alpha Phi     | Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois                      | 1923            |           |
| 47   | Alpha Chi     | University of Kentucky, Lexington.                               | 1924            |           |
| 48   | Alpha Psi     | University of Missouri, Columbia.                                | 1924            | 1934 1945 |
| 49   | Alpha Omega   | Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware.                              | 1924            | 1934 1949 |
| 50   | Beta Alpha    | George Washington University, Washington, D.C.                   | 1924            |           |
| 51   | Beta Beta     | Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania                        | 1924            |           |
| 52   | Beta Gamma    | Florida State University, Tallahassee.                           | 1925            |           |
| 53   | Beta Delta    | Miami University, Oxford, Ohio                                   | 1926            |           |
| 54   | Beta Epsilon  | University of California at Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California | 1926            |           |
| 55   | Beta Zeta     | Iowa State College, Ames.  | 1926            | 1939      |
| 56   | Beta Eta      | University of Nebraska, Lincoln.                                 | 1927            | 1937 1956 |
| 57   | Beta Theta    | Franklin College, Franklin, Indiana                              | 1927            |           |
| 58   | Beta Iota     | Centenary College, Shreveport, Louisiana                         | 1927            |           |
| 59   | Beta Kappa    | Sophie Newcomb College, New Orleans, Louisiana                   | 1927            | 1952      |
| 60   | Beta Lambda   | University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky                   | 1927            | 1943 1945 |
| 61   | Beta Mu       | Washington State College, Pullman.                               | 1928            | 1939      |
| 62   | Beta Nu       | New Mexico State College, State College.                         | 1928            |           |
| 63   | Beta Xi       | Akron University, Akron, Ohio                                    | 1929            |           |
| 64   | Beta Omicron  | University of South Carolina, Columbia.                          | 1929            |           |
| 65   | Beta Pi       | University of Oregon, Eugene.                                    | 1929            | 1943 1945 |
| 66   | Beta Rho      | University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada               | 1929            |           |
| 67   | Beta Sigma    | Southwestern University, Memphis, Tennessee                      | 1929            |           |
| 68   | Beta Tau      | Albion College, Albion, Michigan                                 | 1929            |           |
| 69   | Beta Upsilon  | Kansas State College, Manhattan.                                 | 1931            | 1940      |
| 70   | Beta Phi      | Michigan State University, East Lansing.                         | 1931            |           |
| 71   | Beta Chi      | Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri                       | 1931            |           |
| 72   | Beta Psi      | Stetson University, DeLand, Florida                              | 1935            |           |
| 73   | Beta Omega    | Union University, Jackson, Tennessee                             | 1935            |           |
| 74   | Gamma Alpha   | University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida                       | 1938            |           |
| 75   | Gamma Beta    | Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland                        | 1938            |           |
| 76   | Gamma Gamma   | Texas Western College, El Paso.                                  | 1938            |           |
| 77   | Gamma Delta   | University of Mississippi, University.                           | 1939            |           |
| 78   | Gamma Epsilon | Pennsylvania State University, State College.                    | 1939            |           |
| 79   | Gamma Zeta    | Mississippi State College, State College.                        | 1940            |           |
| 80   | Gamma Eta     | University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio                               | 1946            |           |

| Link | Chapter       |  | Inacti- | Reacti-     |
|------|---------------|--|---------|-------------|
|      |               |  | Year    | vated vated |
| 81   | Gamma Theta   | University of Colorado, Boulder.                         | 1947    |             |
| 82   | Gamma Iota    | University of Florida, Gainesville.                      | 1949    |             |
| 83   | Gamma Pi      | University of Georgia, Athens.                           | 1949    |             |
| 84   | Gamma Kappa   | Madison College, Harrisonburg, Virginia                  | 1949    |             |
| 85   | Gamma Lambda  | Hartwick College, Oneonta, New York                      | 1949    |             |
| 86   | Gamma Mu      | Omaha University, Omaha, Nebraska                        | 1950    |             |
| 87   | Gamma Xi      | Indiana State Teachers College, Indiana,<br>Pennsylvania | 1951    |             |
| 88   | Gamma Omicron | Central Michigan College, Mt. Pleasant.                  | 1951    |             |
| 89   | Gamma Rho     | Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn.                   | 1951    |             |
| 90   | Gamma Nu      | University of Virginia, Charlottesville.                 | 1952    |             |
| 91   | Gamma Sigma   | University of Tampa, Tampa, Florida                      | 1952    |             |
| 92   | Gamma Tau     | Texas Technological College, Lubbock.                    | 1953    |             |
| 93   | Gamma Chi     | Indiana State Teachers College, Terre Haute,<br>Indiana  | 1953    |             |
| 94   | Gamma Phi     | North Texas State Teachers College, Den-<br>ton.         | 1953    |             |
| 95   | Gamma Upsilon | University of Oklahoma, Norman.                          | 1953    |             |
| 96   | Gamma Psi     | Texas Christian University, Fort Worth.                  | 1955    |             |
| 97   | Gamma Omega   | University of Houston, Houston, Texas                    | 1956    |             |





